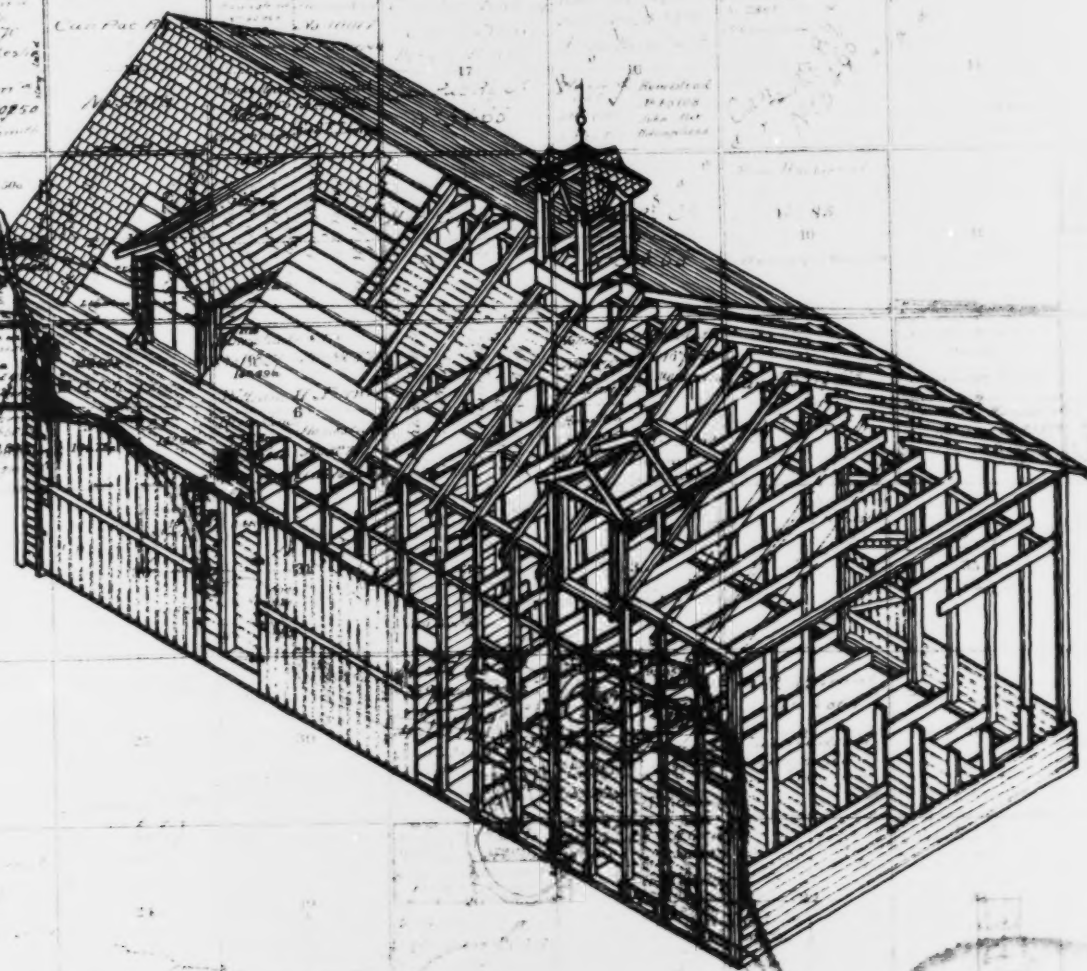


# ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE

## THE BRANDON AND AREA PLANNING DISTRICT



DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND HISTORICAL RESOURCES

MANITIBA





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PROVINCE OF MANITOBA

ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE  
THE BRANDON AND AREA PLANNING DISTRICT

David K. Butterfield  
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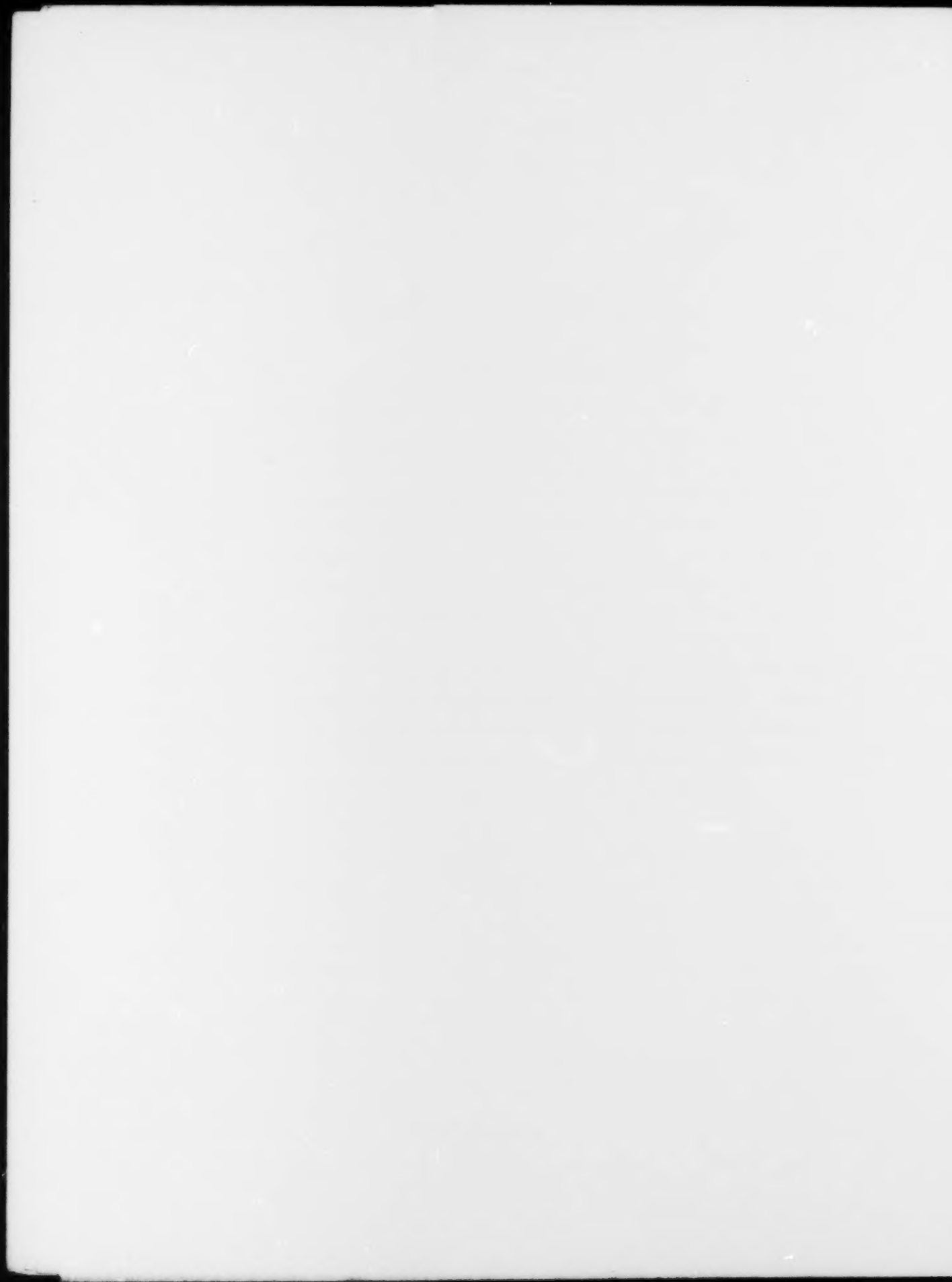
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## I. INTRODUCTION

The Brandon and Area Planning District was formed on 23 January 1980 by an Order-in-Council and was signed into law by Lieutenant-Governor F.J. Jobin. A board, which is responsible for the development of the planning district is supplied with a variety of reports upon which to base future planning decisions. These reports include among others land use, agricultural, rural population, rural transportation, groundwater resources, wildlife and economic base studies. A heritage report was also prepared by the Historic Resources Branch of the Department of Cultural Affairs and Historical Resources for the Brandon and Area Planning District. While this study provides a valuable assessment of the historical heritage within the planning district, it is limited by the secondary sources upon which it is based. Moreover, the architectural history of the rural areas is not well documented. It is for this reason that an extensive investigation of the planning district's rural building heritage was begun. The architectural heritage of the City of Brandon was outlined in *Brandon: An Architectural Walking Tour* also prepared by the Historic Resources Branch. Through a methodical process, which included an historical buildings analysis and the compilation of a selected building inventory, the early architectural heritage of rural Elton-Cornwallis was thoroughly researched.

### A. The Study Area

The Brandon and Area Planning District is located in the southwest corner of Manitoba (Plate 1). It is comprised of the two Rural Municipalities of Cornwallis and Elton, and is dominated by Brandon, the second largest city in Manitoba (Plate 2). The planning district comprises 1123 square kilometres (432 square miles) and has a population of approximately 40,000 people. The Rural Municipality of Elton, with a population of 1,500 is comprised of townships 11 and 12 and ranges 17, 18 and 19. The Rural Municipality of Cornwallis, populated by 4,000 people, extends from township 9 to 10, and from ranges 17 to 19. The City of Brandon, with a population of 35,000 although within the boundaries of Cornwallis, is a separate legal entity.

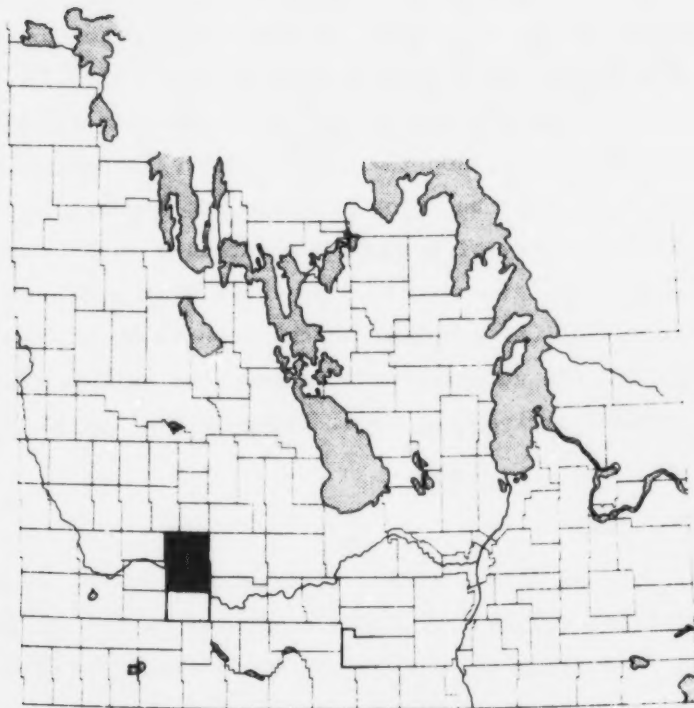


PLATE 1. Locational Map of the Brandon and Area Planning District

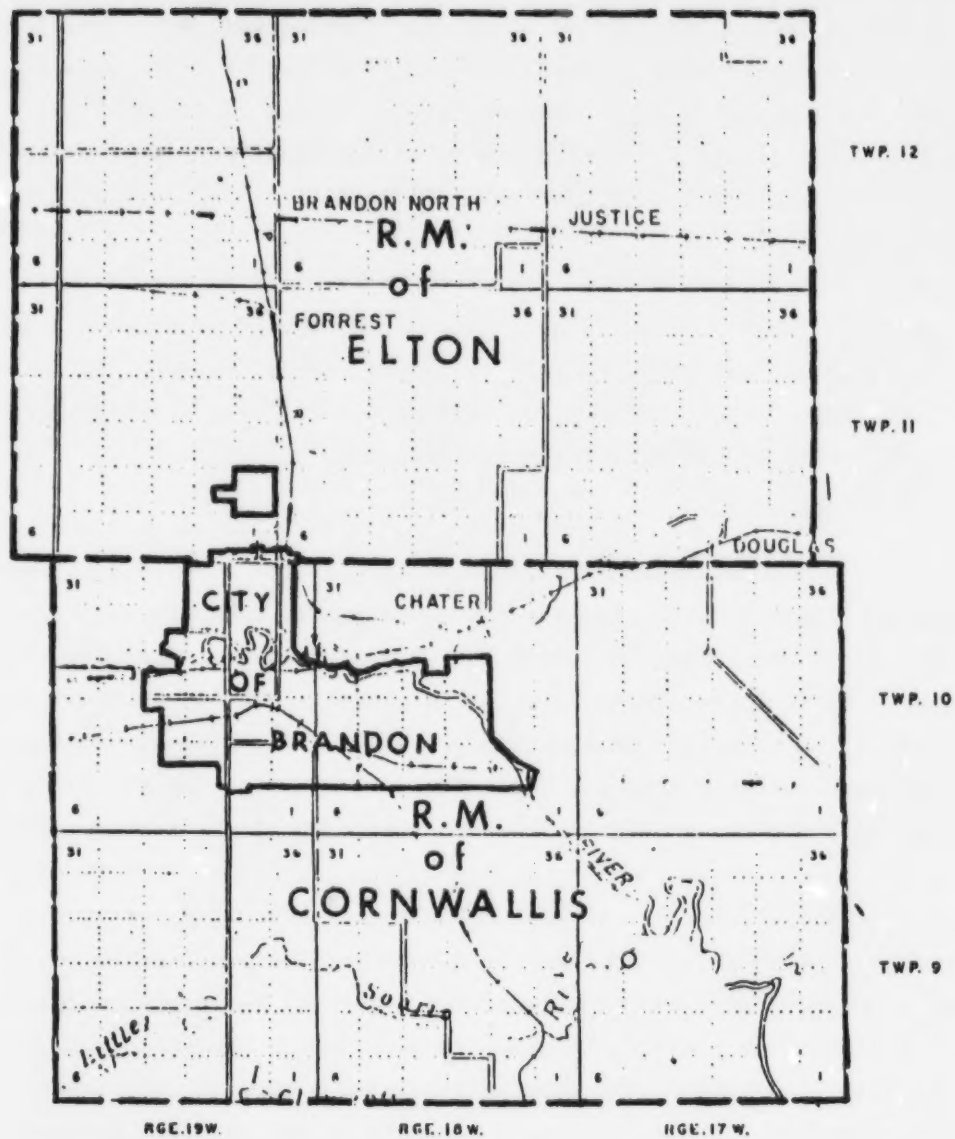


PLATE 2. Brandon and Area Planning District

Physically, the Brandon and Area Planning District ranges from a flat to a rolling expanse of the parkland belt in southwestern Manitoba. The Assiniboine River flows through Cornwallis, entering from the northwest and exiting in the southeast. Both municipalities are drained by a number of small creeks. The Brandon Hills form a notable geographic feature along the southern edge of Cornwallis, while a large swampy tract covers much of northeast Cornwallis. It is within this swampy area that part of the Military Reserve of Camp Shilo is located.

Within the Municipality of Elton are located the communities of Forrest, Douglas and Justice. The only community other than Brandon in the Municipality of Cornwallis is the Village of Chater. The primary economic base in Elton-Cornwallis is agriculture; fine grain-growing land is located in both of the municipalities.

#### B. The Study Methodology

The Architectural Heritage Report for the Brandon and Area Planning District is an analysis and inventory of the district's architectural heritage, excluding the City of Brandon. The survey was undertaken in two steps. In 1981 a photographic inventory with some measured recording of buildings within the planning district was assembled. The materials collected from this survey were then used for an analysis and assessment of the architectural resources in the area.

The examination of the architectural resources and the assessment of sites relied directly on the materials collected in the field. Historical trends, building types and building construction were identified. With the information provided by the photographic inventories and the architectural analysis, a number of structures were grouped by building types and arranged within the two sections of the report in chronological order. An outline of the evolution of architecture in the rural areas of the planning district is described in the first section of this report. The second section of the report is comprised of descriptions of particular buildings selected because they are either superior or typical examples of

specific building types, construction types or architectural styles. Basic information, including the original owner and date of construction were included in the second section for a more comprehensive description of the resources in the planning district.

### C. Study Summary

The survey done for the Brandon and Area Planning District reveals some interesting facts about the architectural resources in the area that were built before 1930. As expected, because the economy of the planning district is based primarily on farming, the area's architecture is largely agricultural in character. Indeed, only a narrow spectrum of building types were identified in the study area. Most structures are farmyard buildings. Farm houses, barns, granaries and miscellaneous out-buildings form the vast majority of structures identified in the photographic survey. Scattered through the countryside, but mainly in the villages of the planning district, are also a few public buildings that provide specific services to the rural areas. There were 312 early buildings of interest identified during the survey. Of this total, 120 were residential structures (only 12 of the total 120 were located in the villages of the planning district), 83 were barns, 76 were farm out-buildings and 28 were public structures.

These structures are in different states of upkeep. Of the 120 houses that were identified in the survey, 48 were either unoccupied or abandoned. The abandoned houses were generally in poor condition. None of the 83 potential heritage barns in Elton-Cornwallis are used for their original purposes. Forty-four are abandoned. Many potential heritage barns are typically used for feed storage. Most of the farm out-buildings are still being used for a variety of purposes.

Public and commercial buildings throughout the planning district are less numerous and are disappearing at a quicker rate than farmyard buildings. While there were once 35 rural schools throughout Elton-Cornwallis, only nine stand today. Some of these are in a deteriorated state. Five of the 12 churches once in the planning district still exist. Two of these are currently closed.

The nature of the potential heritage sites reveals some notable characteristics that should be considered. The condition and



maintenance of all the buildings varies considerably with particular circumstances. Economic, social and cultural changes throughout western Canada disturbed the character of rural life. The growth of farms and the shifts of the rural population to cities lead to serious changes in building requirements. Re-usage, abandonment and demolition all affect the nature of the resource remaining today. Understandably, the oldest buildings of each type are generally in a most deteriorated condition. Construction techniques and the materials used occasionally affected this situation. The four early log buildings are in fairly good condition. Early  $1\frac{1}{2}$  storey houses are numerous, but in general their condition and design are not outstanding. A few appear to be in good shape. At one time there were a number of stone buildings in the planning district. The five remaining stone houses are well-preserved structures. One of these, the Sandison house, is probably the most exceptional building in the area. Two-and-a-half storey frame houses with brick veneer built after 1900 are generally in better condition than frame houses built during the late nineteenth century. The superior materials and the advanced construction methods used for the large houses produced a more durable building. Many  $2\frac{1}{2}$  storey residences are still occupied and unaltered since their original construction.

Potential heritage barns have fared less well than houses. While the log barns are in fairly good condition, there are only three of them left. The early frame barns and early southern Ontario style barns are usually abandoned. There are, however, some very interesting features in these barns that deserve some attention. Large southern Ontario style barns are also in an underused state. Technical advances in agriculture and the decline of horsepower at the turn of the century led to the obsolescence of large southern Ontario style barns and many are currently used only to store grain and implements. Frame barns built after 1910 are usually in better condition than earlier barn types and are also frequently used for their original purpose, not as storage facilities.

## II. HISTORIC BACKGROUND AND SETTLEMENT OF THE STUDY AREA

A survey of the architectural resources in the Brandon and Area Planning District should begin with an account of the area's historical development. The circumstances that influenced the development of buildings around Brandon must be outlined for an appreciation of Elton-Cornwallis' rich architectural heritage. In addition, an historic overview will give support to various points made further on in the report. Because of the brevity, however, only major events and trends will be noted. In addition, because the thrust of this report is architectural, the various historical events that directly or indirectly influenced local building will be emphasized.

The planning district has been inhabited for at least 10,000 years, although the density and duration of occupancy has varied greatly with time. During the seventeenth, eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries large Native populations from central North America congregated during the winter months in southwestern Manitoba to exploit the natural resources of the region. As a consequence of this annual influx, a complex system of trails, camps and buffalo kill sites developed in the district. These aspects of Indian culture reflect the nomadic nature of their lives. Following the buffalo required an ability to uproot a village quickly and abandon a particular habitat. For their impermanent shelters, the Assiniboine, Cree and Ojibwa inhabitants of the area built teepees made of buffalo hides and poles that were cut from local timber stands.

The first European visit to the planning district occurred in 1738 when La Verendrye journeyed down the Assiniboine and Souris Rivers to the Mandan Indian territory. La Verendrye's maps of the west reveal a familiarity with southwestern Manitoba and Elton-Cornwallis in particular. Subsequent French and English explorations throughout western Canada increased specific knowledge of the district. By the mid-eighteenth century the various trading concerns, including the two major competitors, the Hudson's Bay Company and the Northwest Company, had recognized the significance of the area around the confluence of the Assiniboine and Souris Rivers. A great number of forts were built in the general area and for approximately forty years the Brandon area



trading houses operated in the midst of a rich fur and food supply domain. By 1832, however, as the local Indians and buffalo drifted further west and south, the traders of the Assiniboine basin were forced to abandon their territory.

After the fur trade companies had left the area, the only human occupants were nomadic Ojibwa and Sioux bands and Métis on their annual trek to the buffalo hunts on the Couteau de Missouri. The Canadian and the British Scientific Exploring Expeditions, led respectively by H.Y. Hind and Captain John Palliser, constituted a concerted attempt to reverse the general neglect of the west. Both parties simultaneously undertook a comprehensive investigation of the merits of agricultural settlements between 1857 and 1860. Their fine maps clarified and corrected the earlier maps of the west, which included Elton-Cornwallis, by Peter Fidler, David Thompson and Alexander Henry the Younger.

The Canadian government's expectations of an overwhelming response to some of the glowing reports in the Palliser and Hind studies did not immediately materialize. It was not until the 1870s that any degree of notable settlement took place in southwestern Manitoba. Some settlers anticipated the railroad's eventual arrival along the southern slopes of the Riding Mountain area. General settlement of southwestern Manitoba, however, awaited the Canadian Pacific Railway's final decision on a route through Manitoba.

Settlement in the planning district began in 1877 with the arrival of the McVicar brothers who homesteaded along the Assiniboine River just east of present-day Brandon. Subsequent pioneers, including the sixteen member Roddick party in the Brandon Hills and William Currie, who homesteaded along the Assiniboine, followed the typical process of settlement. An initial crude shelter was supplanted within a few months by a more comfortable log cabin which in turn was replaced by a permanent wood frame structure. The materials for these abodes came from local timber stands in the Brandon Hills, or from farther afield in the Riding Mountains. Better quality lumber was cut at the Rapid City mill and floated down the Little Saskatchewan and Assiniboine Rivers to the local homesteads. After establishing a homestead

the land was cleared, crops were sown and a few cattle were raised. By 1879, the early subsistence lifestyle was altered for some of the more ambitious inhabitants. The strategic locations of the McVicar brothers' and William Currie's homesteads along the Assiniboine River brought them into continual contact with the increasing number of immigrants coming to and passing through the planning district.

The rapids along the Assiniboine River above William Currie's homestead at NW 1-10-18W required that steamers stop and unload their cargoes before they could be hauled up-river. This situation offered the opportunity for local entrepreneurs to provide shelter to incoming settlers as well as warehousing and transport facilities for the unloaded goods. Grand Valley, the settlement which grew around McVicar's homestead, and Currie's Landing developed active commercial centres as a result, with lumber yards, warehouses, docks, McVicar's scow service, stores and even a hotel in Grand Valley. As steamer traffic increased on the river and more settlers arrived or passed through the planning district, Grand Valley emerged as the community with the most promising future in the area. Grand Valley and Currie's Landing were quickly developed as notable distribution centres in the southwest, and many settlers found suitable homesteads in the surrounding area. The widespread belief in the permanence of all the settlements just past the then-Manitoba border was shaken, however, when the C.P.R. finally made a decision on the direction of the line past Portage la Prairie. The northerly route originally planned for the main C.P.R. line was scrapped and an alternate southerly route was chosen that extended through the planning district. In 1881, the C.P.R.'s representative rejected Grand Valley as a possible townsite, and instead chose an abandoned section of land on the south side of the river. The new site was quickly surveyed (Plate 3) and by the spring of 1882, 1500 people occupied the newly incorporated City of Brandon.

As the community of Brandon achieved more permanency, frame buildings began to replace the tents and shanties that initially dotted the town site. Brandon quickly emerged as the primary distribution centre in southwestern Manitoba. Newer, better products for agriculture, services and construction were brought in by the railroad.

The rural areas of the planning district were naturally drawn into Brandon's economic orbit. With the young city virtually at the centre of the area, it easily collected and distributed the agricultural resources of the planning district (Plate 4).

The growth of the area continued from 1883 at a more subdued rate, because of a general economic depression in the west. Modest homes and small farms remained typical in the area during this period. In Brandon, however, this downturn was not so keenly felt. The city continued to grow, albeit at a more moderate rate, and many large institutional buildings were erected.

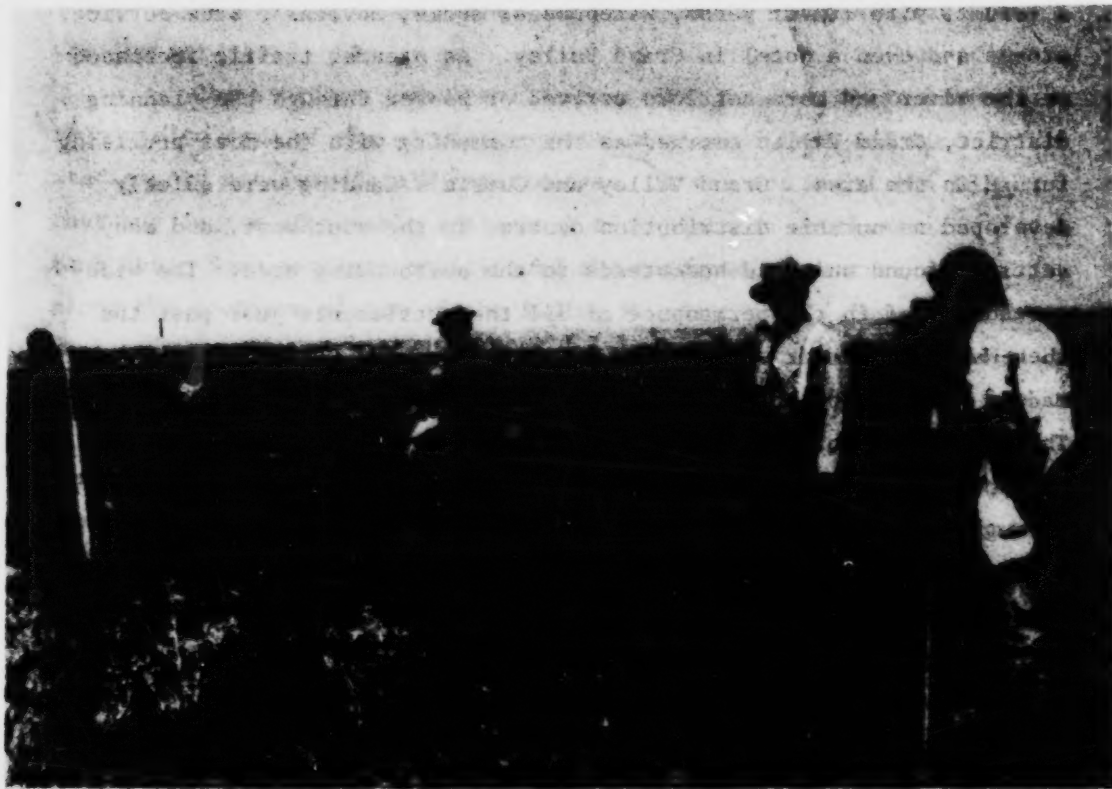


PLATE 3. C.P.R. survey crew near Brandon, 1887. (Provincial Archives Manitoba.)

Smaller communities also began emerging in Elton-Cornwallis. On the C.P.R. mainline, Chater and Douglas developed at about the same time as Brandon. Around the turn of the century, communities like Forrest and Justice were established on two of the many branch lines which ran to the main C.P.R. line. The larger of these villages, Douglas then had a population of about 200. Post offices, stores, schools and churches became the focal points of these small communities. In the countryside scattered churches and schools served not only as educational and religious facilities, but as local community centres as well.

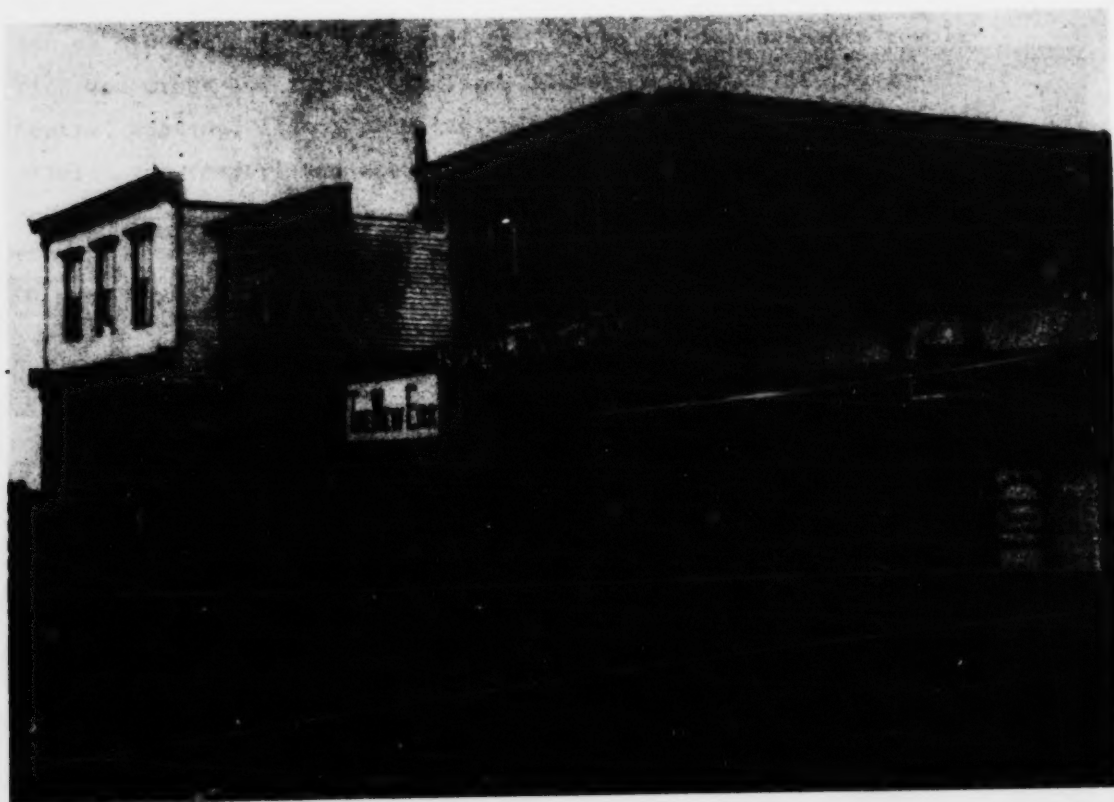


PLATE 4. Brandon, 1882. The north side of Rosser Avenue. Within the span of a few months these commercial buildings had sprung up to serve the new settlers. The Imperial Bank of Canada, in the centre, was one of Brandon's earliest banks. The New Era, to the left of the bank, was a cigar store. (Provincial Archives Manitoba.)

After the economic malaise finally ended in 1896, the area entered the "Boom Years" of 1896-1914 and the planning district experienced its most impressive period of expansion. In Brandon a strong commercial and financial sector flourished and the buildings were more sophisticated. Architects and skilled craftsmen, drawn by the promise of the burgeoning new city undertook some fine projects. Notable buildings of brick and stone began replacing the former low, wood frame structures and the city's appearance took on a more refined permanent appearance (Plate 5).



PLATE 5. Brandon, 1919. The Mackenzie Seed Building dominates the skyline to the left. On the right the Prince Edward Hotel and the steeple of the City Hall are visible. (Provincial Archives Manitoba.)



In the rural areas of the planning district, buildings followed this general trend. The small frame homes of the depression period were either enlarged, or substantial new brick dwellings were constructed in their place. Farms grew larger and the general sense of prosperity and progress that characterized the period influenced farmers and townsfolk alike. This period of social and economic security was put to an unkind end, however, by World War I.

A period of uncertainty following the War, succeeded by the Twenties and the Great Depression of the 1930s, slowed the growth and development in the west. After World War II, however, the progressive spirit of the earlier period was somewhat revived. Agricultural innovations altered farm organization. Farms themselves increased in size and so did the associated buildings. Technical improvements revolutionized urban and rural buildings, as well as rural life in general. Central heating, indoor plumbing, electricity and improved insulation offered the comfort and attractions of urban house design to farm houses.

### III. BUILDING ANALYSIS

As noted, the development of the planning district, at least since the advent of nineteenth century European settlement, was intimately linked with the development of agriculture. The intent of this report is to identify and analyze the architectural heritage that in itself was an important aspect of the area's development. Before focusing on individual structures, it will be useful to discuss the interrelationship of the building types on the farmyard itself.

Within the farmyard, the house and the barn provided a focal point for the whole yard's development. Being the first two structures built (almost simultaneously), on the yard, the house and the barn share a position of equal importance in the heirarchy of farmstead buildings. The granaries, elevators, sheds, chicken coops and other storage buildings built after the house and barn are usually of secondary importance.

Initial structures built during the 1870s, like tents, lean-to's, sod huts or crude log shanties offered a rudimentary, yet quick, means of providing shelter for humans and animals (Plate 6). Throughout the first stage the location of a water source was the dominant factor in determining the yard's layout. The barn was placed closer to the water source to provide easier handling of water for livestock. At this time, both the barn and the house were approximately the same size. Within the yard, these first crude buildings were generally arranged in a cluster for three reasons: to make access between buildings easier, to provide shelter from the prevailing northwest winds, and finally, to contain the buildings within a fireguard trench dug around the yard. The average homesteader built few additional storage structures at this time, as available money was spent on land, seed and farm equipment. After a few months (although sometimes it took years depending on economic circumstances) the pioneer settlers were often able to replace these first structures with more comfortable ones (Plate 7). These moderately sized farms, with small houses, barns that had now become somewhat larger than the house, and more out-buildings, served most of the new settlers in the planning district during the 1880s.



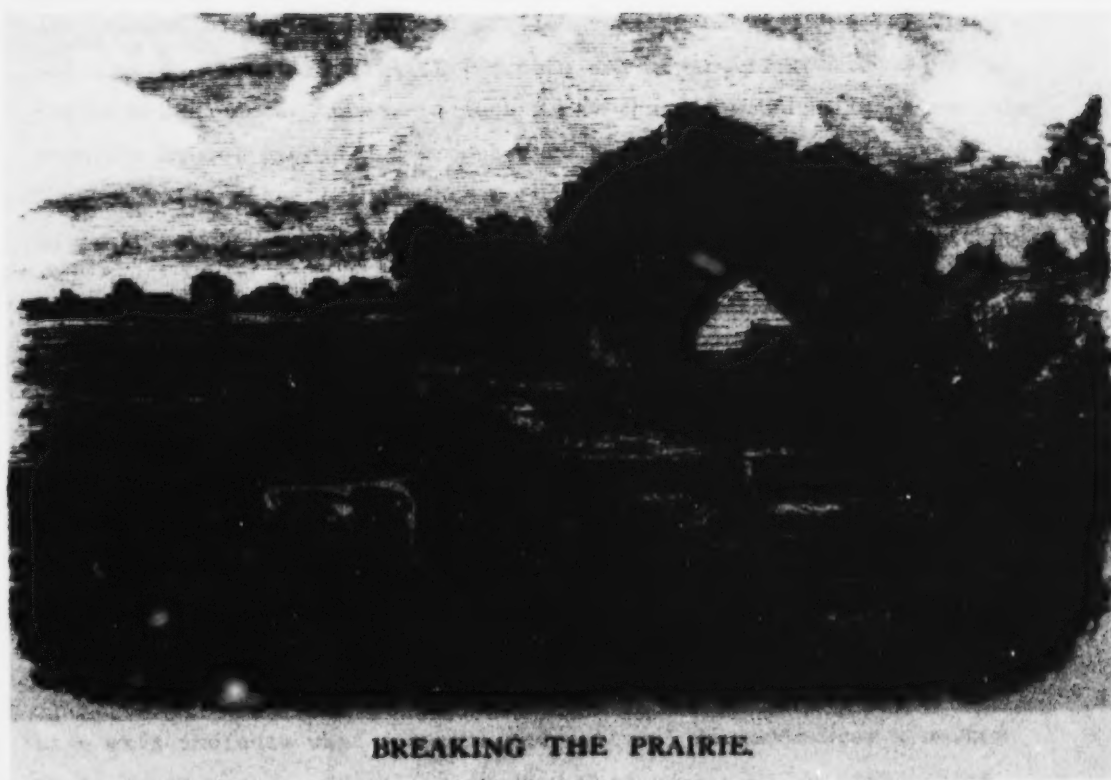


PLATE 6. "Breaking the prairie". (ca. 1880.) This idealized illustration shows the progression of habitation. While the first crop is being prepared other members of this pioneer group construct a small frame house. The tent in which the settlers are still temporarily living will soon be vacated. (Provincial Archives Manitoba.)

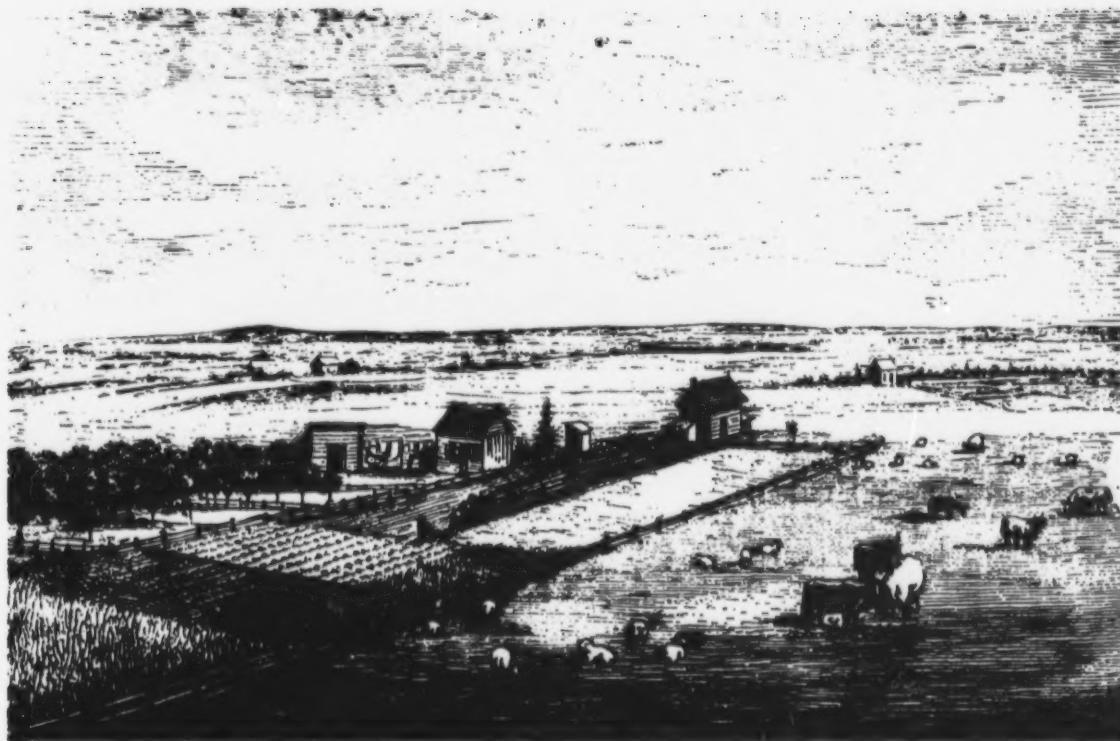


PLATE 7. Two years after settlement on the prairie. (ca. 1883.)  
(Provincial Archives Manitoba.)

The surveying of Elton-Cornwallis in the late 1870s strongly influenced farm layout. Desired access to section roads encouraged the location of farmyards closer to the road allowance. The basic layout of the farmyard was maintained with the house and barn now supplemented by other storage structures. With the renewed economic buoyancy of the 1880s, farmers throughout the west undertook more substantial building (Plate 8). As farming became an established business enterprise, houses became more commodious, barns grew to a dominant size within the farmyard and associated buildings became more numerous. In addition, a fairly systematic approach to yard layout was developed. The house was located closer to the main section road to provide initial views and access. The more utilitarian barn was generally located in a position behind the house, in such a way that it was easily accessible from the house, provided a wind break, but was not upwind from the house. While these layouts are regularly seen in the planning district, there are enough exceptions to limit its application as a specific rule.

#### A. Rural Residential Structures

The three stages in the development of residential architecture around Brandon, illustrated in the previous three plates (6, 7 and 8), can be easily distinguished, but they are difficult to date precisely. Although log houses were generally the first type of house built in the area, many log structures continued to be constructed after the turn of the century, while the small-scale 1½ storey house was the most prevalent house-type for the first fifty years of settlement.

A detailed analysis of the three stages in residential design will indicate what economic and cultural circumstances promoted their development. It will also show what construction differences gave all three a sense of individual character.

#### Initial Structures (1878-1900)

Upon arrival along the unoccupied slopes of the Assiniboine River, the pioneer settlers in the Elton-Cornwallis area built their first shelters, crude lean-to's and hastily constructed log or sod shanties. Frequently situated so that a dugout could be fashioned



PLATE 8. Six years after settlement on the prairie. An elaborate house and a large frame barn now dominate this neat little farmyard. (Provincial Archives Manitoba.)

from an embankment or a hillock, these first structures provided room for one or two people. They were only inhabited during the first stage of settlement, while the land was cleared and a small crop was sown.

This stage of settlement, during the late 1870s and early 1880s, was difficult and it took some time before homesteaders were able to adjust to the hard work and the harsher climate on their new farms. Some remained until the 1890s in the initial conditions of settlement, living in shacks and subsisting on meagre crops. Many settlers, however, adjusted to the difficulties of their new life and within a few years were able to harvest good crops and even encourage family relations from the east to venture west. The stability of their lifestyle at this time permitted many homesteaders throughout the west to consider the construction of a better house. Well-crafted 1½ storey log houses were usually constructed, although some sod houses were also built (Plates 9 and 10).

Log cabins usually had a single large room on the ground floor in which space was provided for cooking, eating and family gatherings. The top floor was usually divided into two bedrooms; one for the parents and the other for the children.

A simple medium-pitched roof and a small rectangular plan characterized the form of early log houses. Constructed by placing large logs one atop the other, log buildings required a corner joint that locked the walls together. Only a limited variety of notches were popular in the Canadian west during the nineteenth century. Dovetail joints and saddle-notch joints were the two most common methods of connecting log walls (Plates 11 and 12). While both notching procedures could produce joints of exceptional quality, the saddle-notch in this area was typically the earlier and less refined construction method. One of the first settlers in the area, the Reverend George Roddick, built a log cabin with saddle-notched corners although it is unclear whether he used a top or bottom notching procedure (Plate 13).

Dovetail joining in Manitoba was usually more sophisticated than saddle-notching. Within the planning district there were no log



PLATE 9. Log home under construction, Somerset.  
(ca. 1900.) (Provincial Archives Manitoba.)



PLATE 10. A Sod home. (ca. 1900.) (Provincial  
Archives Manitoba.)



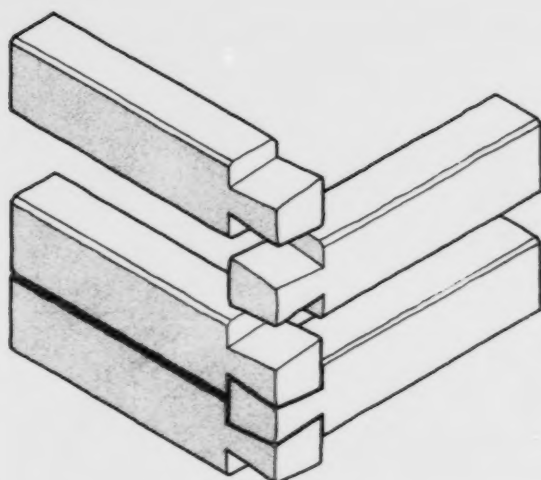


PLATE 11. Dovetail construction entailed cutting a wedge-shaped joint at each end of the squared logs. The logs were lapped at the corners and joined in an interlocking system that created a strong neat corner and ensured a waterproof joint.

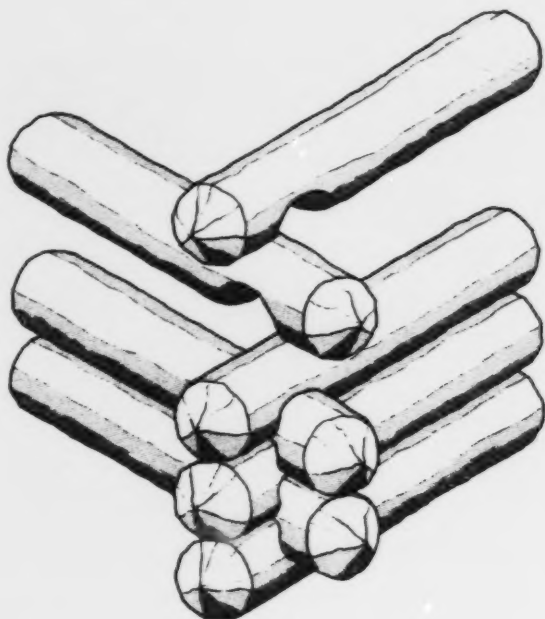


PLATE 12. In saddlenotch construction, round logs were lapped and, at the corners, curved notches were cut about a foot back from the end of the log. The location of the saddlenotch on the bottom of the log was more desirable as it allowed water to drain downwards, reducing the possibility of rain gathering in a top-notch and rotting the joint.



PLATE 13. Roddick log cabin, SE 17-9-18W, ca. 1879. This house was probably one of the first built in the planning district. (Murray McPherson.)

houses located during the survey although a photograph of Reverend Roddick's second house reveals dovetail joinery (Plate 14). However, a restored log cabin moved from the Rapid City area is now located on the grounds of the Daly House Museum in Brandon (Plate 15). Originally, the  $1\frac{1}{2}$  storey structure likely sat on the rough fieldstone footing. The 300 x 300 mm\* (12" x 12") logs themselves are roughly squared on four sides and are joined at the corners with well-cut dovetails. The rather large space between each log was probably filled with a chinking or hay and daub mixture, although cement was used in the restoration. The doors and windows appear, in this example, to be handmade. In other cases, door and window frames were frequently the only milled items in log construction that were purchased.

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\* Metric measurements in millimetres (mm). Following each metric reference is the equivalent Imperial measurement, in inches or feet.



PLATE 14. Roddick log house, SE 17-9-18W, ca. 1900. This dovetail-joined log house was dismantled during the 1950s. (Murray McPherson.)



PLATE 15. This small log cabin on the grounds of the Daly House Museum in Brandon was built for a local Indian chief before 1900.

Typically, as noted, the log cabin consisted of one large room downstairs and two rooms upstairs. This was likely the case here. The corner notching and construction procedures necessary in log construction limited these early houses to a rectangular plan. The interior face of the log wall could be whitewashed to produce a cleaner appearance, but any decorative embellishments were unaffordable and unnecessary at this time. The pioneers generally recognized the impermanency of their initial structures and would have considered it wasteful to adorn a rough log cabin with anything but strictly utilitarian objects.

#### Small Rectangular Planned Houses (1880-1915)

The C.P.R. passenger trains that began arriving at Brandon in 1881 brought with them the first large groups of settlers to the planning district. Hundreds of immigrants from Ontario, Quebec, the Maritimes, and the United Kingdom poured into and through Elton-Cornwallis before 1885. Those settlers of Scottish and Irish origin from southern Ontario formed the majority. Their first dwellings were, like their predecessors', rudimentary constructions. However, local timber sources for log cabins were soon depleted and it became necessary for settlers to begin building with another structural material.

Although milled lumber had been available from the Rapid City mill since the 1870s, the difficulties encountered with transporting loads downriver usually made construction with logs quicker and more practical. With the growth of Brandon and the introduction there of a number of saw mills the situation was drastically altered. Cut lumber was soon readily available to all parts of the planning district. Log houses certainly continued to be built into the 1890s by poorer settlers. However the ready-made quality of milled lumber not only provided easier construction than with logs, but it also created a neat finished appearance that was prized by settlers wishing to leave behind their pioneering lifestyle. The advantages of frame construction impressed settlers, and the majority of residences built in Elton-Cornwallis after 1880 were constructed using lumber.

Before 1900, 1½ storey houses in the planning district were generally modest structures with minimal pretension of architectural style. These houses were usually rectangular in plan and had a gable roof of medium slope. Within this basic form two types of house, distinct in floor plan and external character, can be identified.

#### Symmetrically Planned Houses

The first type was based on houses familiar to settlers who had migrated from southern Ontario (Plate 16). An abandoned house at SE 28-11-17W is a typical example of this residential type (Plate 17). The front of the house was on the long side of the rectangular floor plan (Plates 18 and 19). The door was nearly always centrally placed creating a symmetrical facade that was accented by a central gable (Plate 20). Internally the house contained a central hallway, sometimes running from front to back, effectively dividing the ground floor in two, with rooms on each side.

#### Side Hall-planned Houses

The second basic house type built before the turn of the century in Elton-Cornwallis was plainer in appearance than the type transplanted from southern Ontario. A house at NW 3-12-19W is a fairly well-preserved example of this type of small-scale frame construction (Plate 21). One-and-a-half storeys like the previous type, the basic differences between the two regards their internal planning and the consequent changes in fenestration patterns. This second type of rectangular house had its front on the short side of the floor plan (Plate 22). To make the most efficient use of interior space, the front door would be placed to one side creating an asymmetrical and vertically massed front. Internally, on the ground floor, the hall was located to one side at the front of the house (Plate 23).

Until 1930, when these residences became less popular, both of the rectangular house types were usually constructed using a wooden frame sheathed with wood siding. There were two basic framing types common in the building of these small-scale structures. The first,



PLATE 16. A large southern Ontario house in the county of Norfolk. This house form was usually enhanced with Gothic-style forms that were in vogue throughout southern Ontario during the nineteenth century. Bargeboards, pointed windows and steeply-pitched gables were typical elements incorporated in symmetrically-planned houses. (Historical Atlas of the Counties of Haldemand and Norfolk, H.R. Page & Co.)



PLATE 17. Symmetrically-planned  $1\frac{1}{2}$  storey house, SE 28-11-17W, ca. 1885. Although abandoned and in disrepair, the presence of square nails and pedimented window caps date this house as a pre-1900 construction.



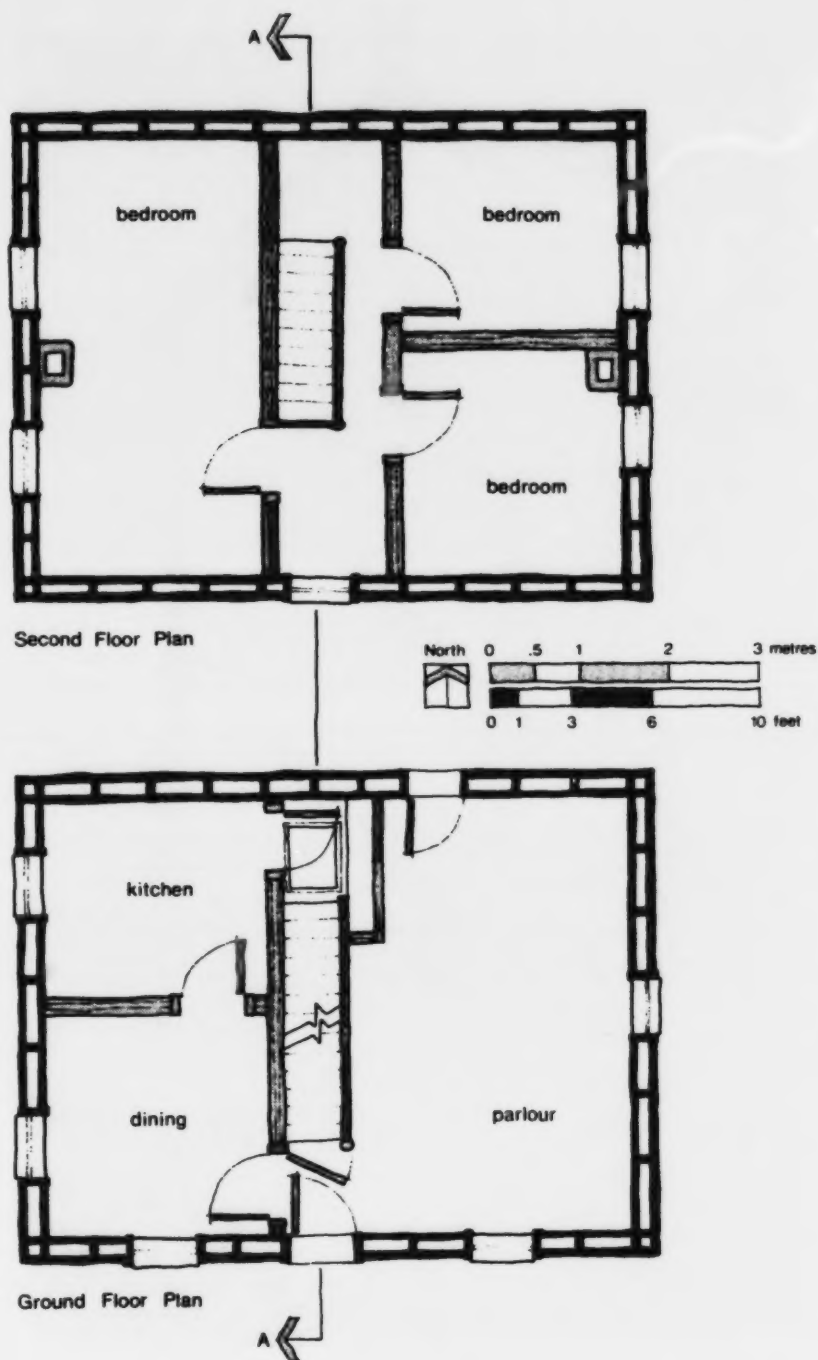
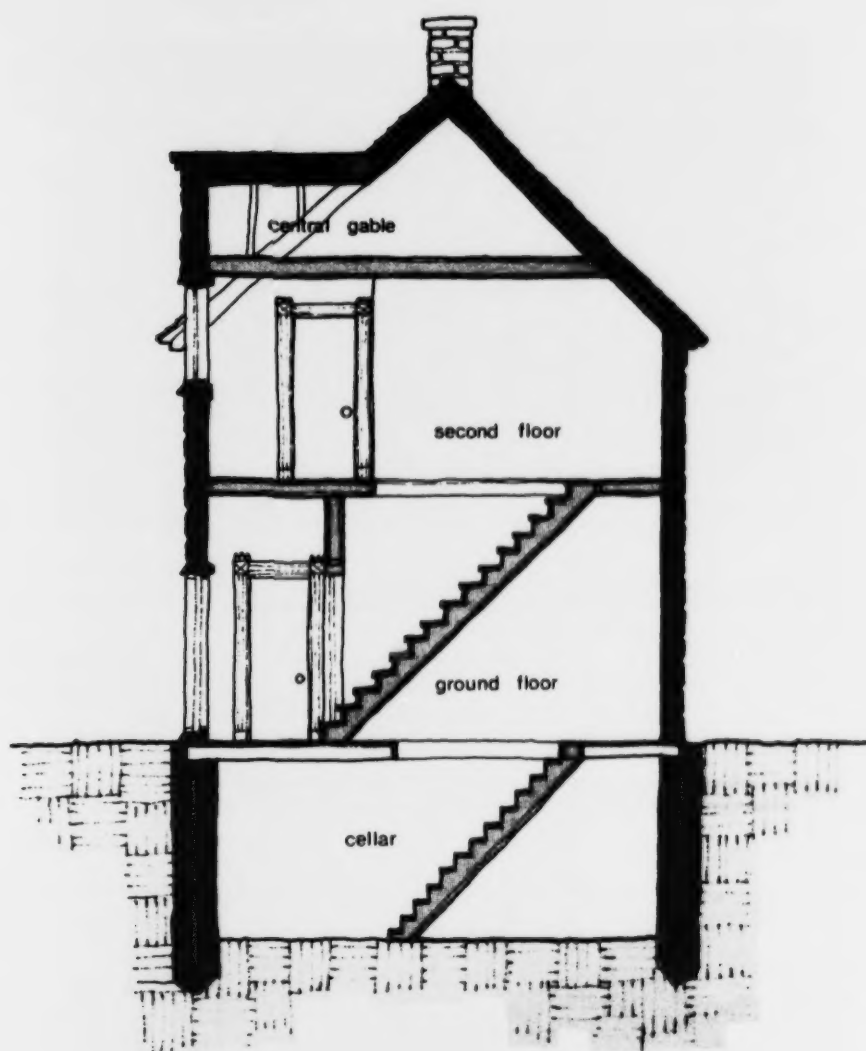


PLATE 18. Symmetrically-planned 1½ storey house: ground floor and second floor plans. New settlers in the west could hardly afford the time or money to construct elaborate stone houses. Instead, they often chose lumber.



Section A-A

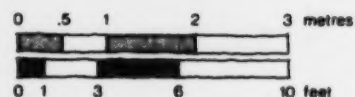


PLATE 19. Symmetrically-planned 1½ storey house: section. A cellar, like the one in this house was a typical feature in most residential structures in Canada. The damage to the structure caused by frost heaving was a continual problem in the cold northern climate. In this instance a fieldstone foundation extended six feet below grade creating a full basement.

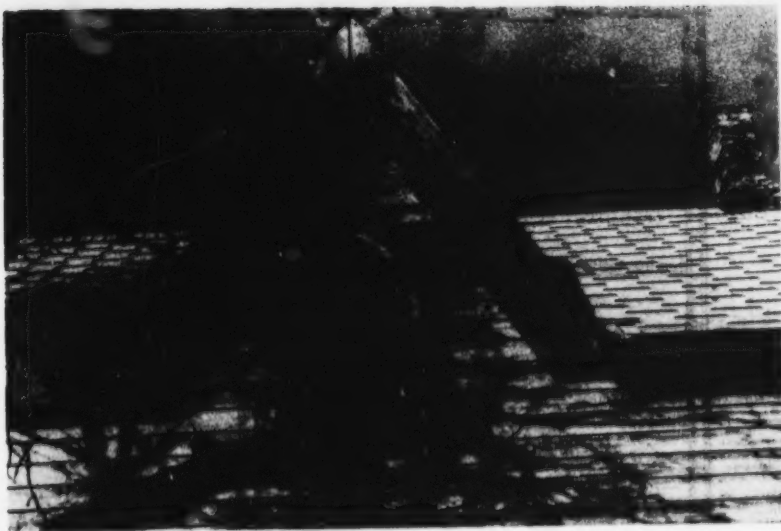
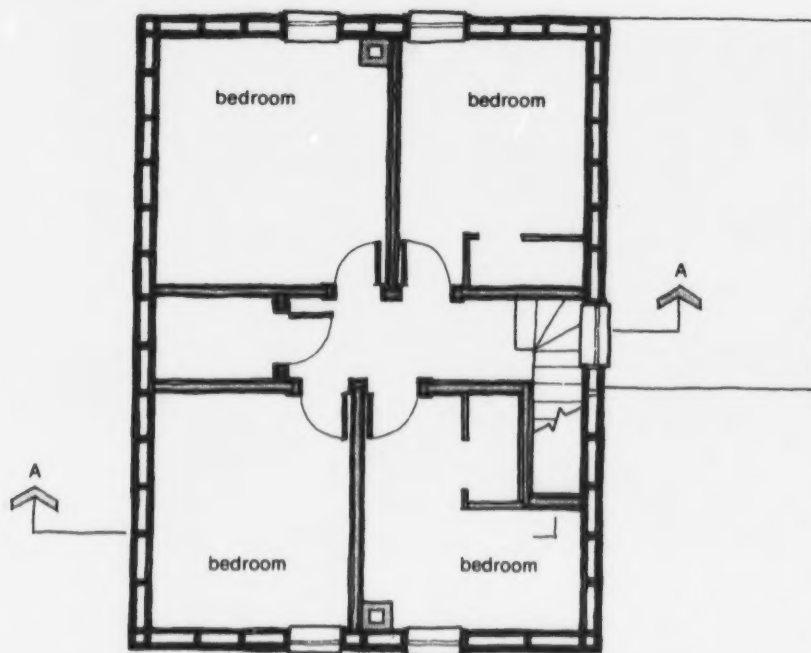


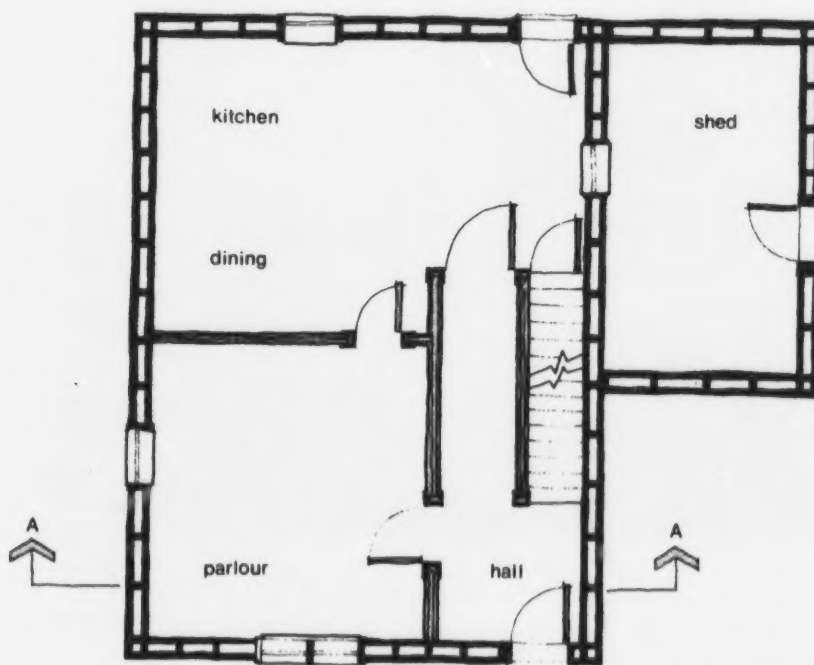
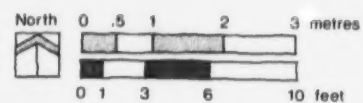
PLATE 20. Gothic-style pointed windows and central gables with bargeboards were usual motifs of the symmetrically-planned small-scale house.



PLATE 21. Side hall-planned 1½ storey house, NW 3-12-19W, ca. 1900. Although round nails in the main structure of this house imply that it was built around 1900, its basic form, planning and fenestration reflect the basic rectangular house type built fifteen years earlier.



Second Floor Plan



Ground Floor Plan

PLATE 22. Side hall-planned 1½ storey house: ground and second floor plans.

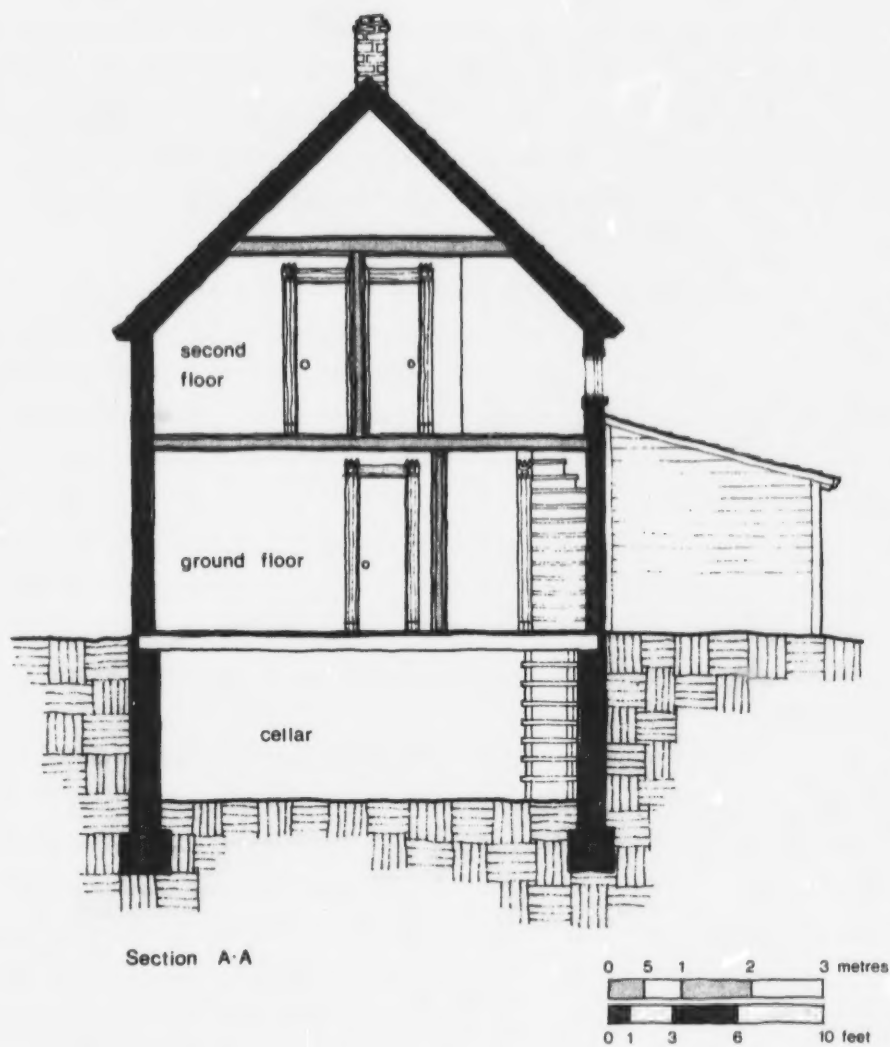


PLATE 23. Side hall-planned 1½ storey house:  
section.

balloon framing, was the most typical frame construction method used before 1890; platform framing succeeded balloon framing after 1890.

Balloon framing permitted quick and easy construction of the exterior frame and the addition of the roof before interior work was begun (Plate 24). The addition of the roof at this stage allowed work to progress inside during inclement weather. The actual construction procedure entailed the attachment of 40 x 80 mm (2" x 4") studs to a sill plate that was secured to the foundation. The stud walls extended in one piece up to the plate supporting the roof. Floor joists, supported by ribbon boards, were nailed to the individual studs.

The platform framing procedure eliminated the need for long 40 x 80s (2" x 4"s) and also permitted construction in stages (Plate 25). Each stud wall, which extended only one storey, was pre-assembled as a unit at each succeeding stage of construction. The individual walls were fitted into prescribed vertical positions and secured to horizontal plates.

Platform framing continued to be used for the construction of small-scale frame residences in the planning district during the first three decades of the twentieth century. At the same time, however, the two basic house types were occasionally built of stone or veneered with brick or concrete.

Fieldstone houses varied both in terms of appearance and construction procedures. Fieldstone rubble of different sizes bonded with large amounts of mortar resulted in rough walls that were often covered with plaster outside and wood lath and plaster inside (Plate 26). While several of these houses were built before 1920, only the one illustrated still stands. Neater, more elegant stone houses required the skills of a mason. Carefully-cut and faced stones, bonded with small amounts of mortar, created straight, solid walls. A house at NW 21-9-18W is a symmetrically-planned house executed in fieldstone (Plate 27).

The use of brick veneer was not common for the construction of small-scale residences. Indeed, there are only two existing small-scale brick residences left in the planning district. Brick was



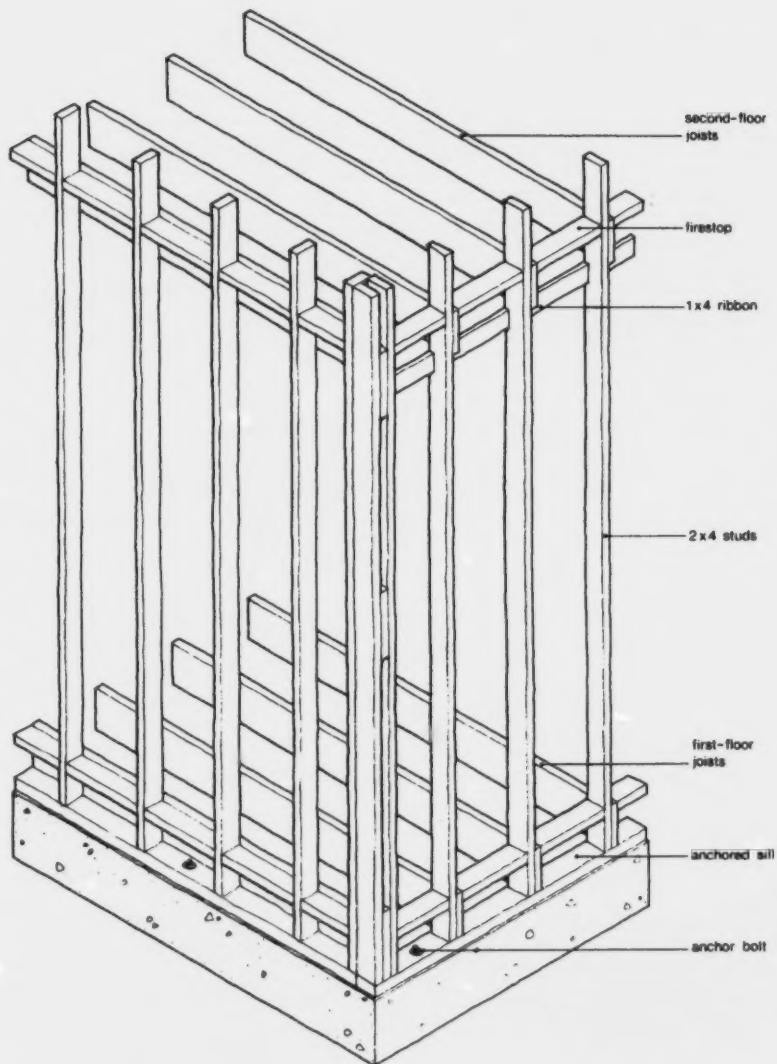


PLATE 24. Balloon framing construction.

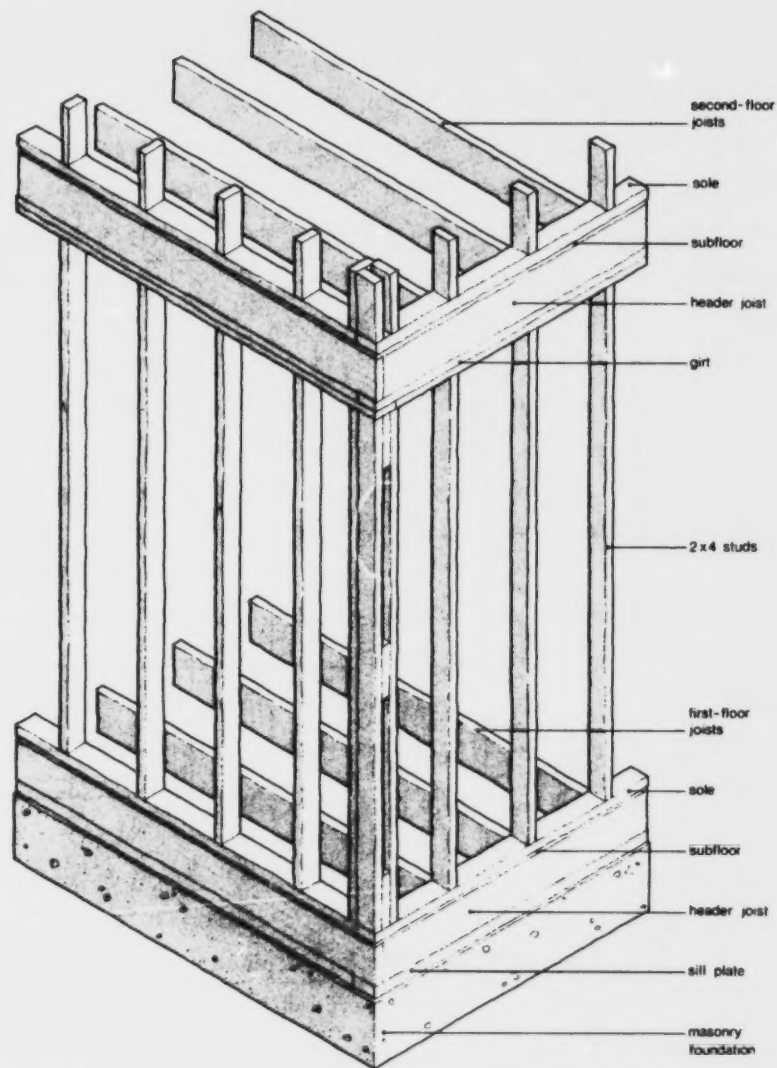


PLATE 25. Platform framing procedure. Each floor was built separately. The stud walls were assembled and arranged at each succeeding stage of the construction.



PLATE 26. Hoey residence, NE 25-11-18W, ca. 1890. The deteriorated condition of this old house, long abandoned, reveals thick field-stone walls.

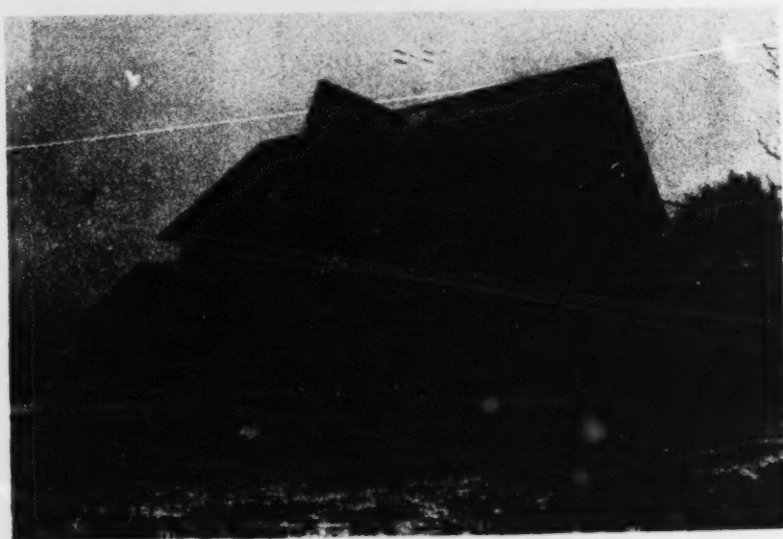


PLATE 27. Centrally-planned  $1\frac{1}{2}$  storey stone house, NE 21-9-18W. The well-cut blocks of this symmetrically-planned house recall the more elaborate stone houses of southern Ontario. The house was used from 1907 to 1915 as the Brandon Hills Post Office.

expensive before the turn of the century and the construction procedures were labour-intensive. Erecting a frame for a small-scale house and then covering it with brick was unaffordable for most farmers in the area. A house in Forrest is a more substantial brick veneer version of the second basic house type (Plate 28).

Not only were these two early house types modified by the use of cover materials, they could also be altered in appearance by shed additions and decorative embellishments. A house at NW 19-12-18W has the same planning and fenestration patterns that characterized the first basic house type (Plate 29). However, additions to the main body of this house, either original or of a later date, provided considerably more space and changed the general aspect of the building. In addition the finer, more decorative detailing suggests this building was owned by a prosperous farmer. Another house, in Forrest, was not only enlivened in appearance by a bay window, but it also had a later wing extension with a hip-roofed verandah (Plate 30).



PLATE 28. Side-hall-planned 1½ storey house, Forrest. A more elaborate version of the second common house type is created in this Forrest house using buff brick veneer, extended proportions and detailing in the parlour window and gable peak.

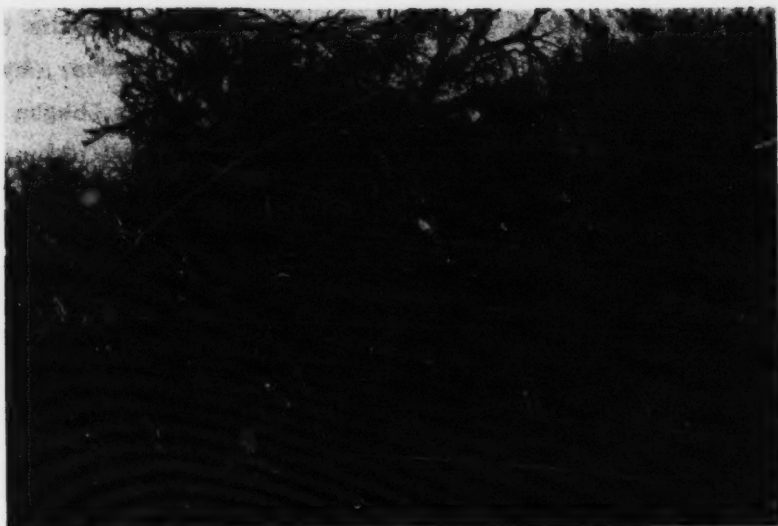


PLATE 29. Bucharth residence, NW 19-12-18W, ca. 1893. A porch at the front of this abandoned house has crenellated cresting on the roof ridge and a carved bargeboard in the central gable that provide picturesque elements to the south front.



PLATE 30. Birkhan house, Forrest. The side hall plan that characterized the second basic house type is retained in the original section of this house, although the east addition creates an enlarged L-shape plan.

Slight variations like those mentioned enriched the two basic house types. Around the turn of the century, however, hybrids, which sometimes combined elements from both house types, began being built. These houses which introduced different internal planning and had consequent changes in massing virtually created new house types. L-shaped plans were a favourite way to produce a larger more exciting house that also provided additional sunlight and ventilation. Village houses, especially, showed this development. An L-shaped house in Douglas incorporated just one remnant of the first rectangular house type: a steep gable with a pointed window (Plate 31).

Large Square Planned Houses (1900-1920)

By the turn of the century, at the same time that the two small-scale house types were being transformed into larger, more detailed versions of their earlier forms, quite different types of houses



PLATE 31. Hooke house, Douglas. The south gable end of this large L-shaped house is graced with a mansard-roofed bay window on the first floor and a window capped with a pediment directly above. These window frames were typical throughout the planning district during the 1880s and 1890s.



were also being built. The depressed economic conditions that had allowed only modest house building had eased by the 1890s. From this time, until the First World War, the planning district was swept along with the widespread prosperity of the West. Rising grain prices and the development of Brandon as a large, important city, provided the rural areas of the planning district with wealth and a sense of sophistication. Not only could well-to-do farmers now build larger houses with substantial materials, but they frequently could adorn these houses with finer architectural elements.

While modest houses built before 1900 can be easily divided into two distinct types, the large residences of the later period, because of their architectural diversity, cannot be readily categorized. Still, there were a number of features that were descriptive of most large houses built after 1900. Most were 2½ storeys high, square or L-shape in plan and had large roofs with broad overhanging eaves. The interior planning was typically based either on a central or side hall plan. The central configuration was more common and a symmetrically-composed south facade appears more popular than the more informal offset format. The construction procedures used to build these large houses had become more varied since the construction of the earlier small-scale residences during the nineteenth century. Wood frame with wood siding continued to be the most popular construction method. However, usually brick, but sometimes stone or concrete became common building materials for the larger house types.

A house at SW 22-11-17W built by Robert McKeand was a standard example of these large square-planned houses (Plate 32). The 2½ storey square block was topped by a large truncated pyramidal roof. The south facade was symmetrically composed, with three windows on the second floor that lined up above a more elaborate ground floor. Larger windows, detailed with stained glass opened into the drawing and dining rooms of the ground floor. The finely-crafted wood porch, with its delicate wrought iron cresting was likely a later addition (Plate 33). The other sides of the house were more informally handled (Plate 34).



PLATE 32. McKean house, SW 22-11-17W, 1900. The south facade of this large square-planned house has been overgrown with vegetation.



PLATE 33. McKean house. The porch ornamentation on this house incorporated Eastlake-inspired details.



PLATE 34. McKeand house. The west facade of the house shows one of the three dormer windows, detailed with intricate wooden bargeboards, that project through the sheet metal roof.

The internal planning of this large square house was dependent on the central hallway (Plate 35). The straightforward floor plans were enhanced by some decorative features. The more formal drawing and dining rooms had ceilings with inlaid pressed panels that were hand-painted by one of McKeand's daughters. The central staircase was also animated with distinctive newel posts and ballusters. Finally, door and window frames added a light sense to the basic regularity of the design.

The McKeand house was constructed of concrete (Plate 36). While wood framing with wood or brick veneer were more common procedures, there was a period after 1900 when concrete was accepted as a viable construction alternative. Itinerant builders roamed the countryside with portable block-making machines and for ten years concrete buildings, usually of block, were quite popular. Instead of blocks, however, the walls of this house were constructed using 300 mm (12") thick formed concrete. The monolithic walls not only

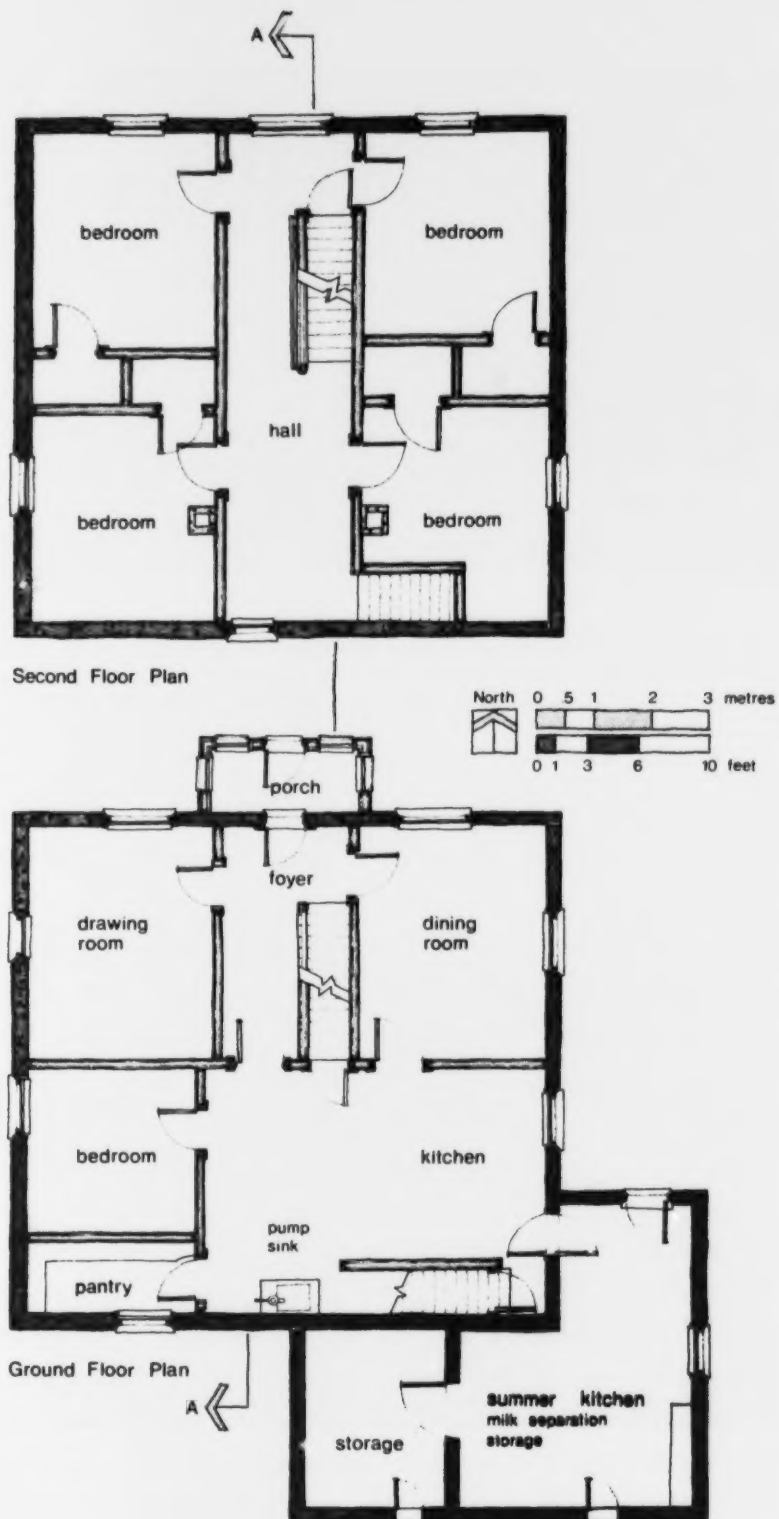


PLATE 35. McKeand house: ground and second floor plans. The wide central hallway bisected both plans.

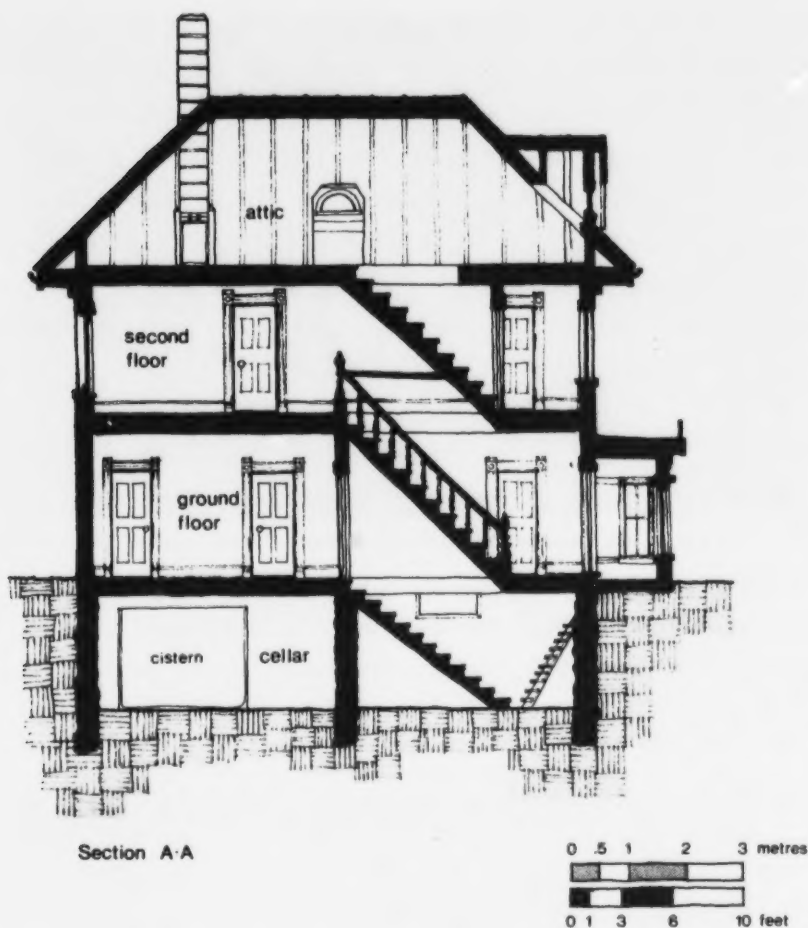


PLATE 36. McKeand house: section. While the foundation was fieldstone, the floors of the main structure were constructed using concrete.

provided fireproofing but with the plaster and lath interior, they improved heat retention. This large square-planned house also contained a heating system that was common in western Canada. Stove pipes ran vertically from the furnace through all the rooms and then to the attic where the base of the chimney was located. In this manner the metal stovepipes were used to transfer heat to the rooms.

While the size and detailing of this  $2\frac{1}{2}$  storey house distinguish it from the two basic small-scale residences it was not actually the home of a rich man. The plain unpainted concrete and

the sheet metal roof were improvised construction procedures. Although the porch was certainly an expensive item, most of the other architectural elements in the house, including the woodworking, stained glass and pressed metal ceilings were all common features in houses of this period. What distinguished this house from other large square-planned houses was the diversity of building materials, roof forms and ornamentation that characterized their designs. These features changed with time, and as more large houses were built, considerable architectural sophistication entered into their design.

A large elaborate frame house at SW 16-9-18W (Plate 37) had a more refined sense of design than the McKeand house. Probably built around the same time, this 2½ storey residence was more richly detailed. The exterior had a verandah extending along three sides of the main floor, twinned first floor windows, mouldings and brackets under the roof overhang and grillework surrounding the roof walk. Inside this house some typical woodwork reveals the taste of the period (Plates 38 and 39).



PLATE 37. Roddick house, SW 16-9-18W, cas. 1910. This complex square-planned frame house has been abandoned for a number of years.





PLATE 38. Roddick house. The intricate post caps on the verandah created a sense of lightness.



PLATE 39. Roddick house. This door frame, with its simple caps and mouldings, was a common residential item around 1900.

Another large square-planned residence at SW 5-12-18W had a brick veneer finish that created a distinctive pattern on the walls (Plate 40). The inclusion of substantial quantities of expensive red brick indicate this farmer's status. Before 1910 yellow brick was more readily available than red brick, and the use of red brick at this time generally revealed a wealthy builder. The workmanship of this expensive brick is somewhat inconsistent on this particular house, however. The quoins, especially, reveal some sloppiness. The walls create strange zig-zags when seen together at the corners. However, a wrap-around verandah, now gone, probably concealed those irregularities. The brick detailing around the windows and doors is less ambitious, but more assured. The stained glass of the ground floor windows is a more elaborate reminder of the simple stained glass designs in the McKeand house.



PLATE 40. McPhail house, SW 5-12-18W, 1909. This brick veneer house was altered by the removal of a wrap-around porch.

Large square-planned houses remained a popular house type in the planning district from the turn of the century until after the First World War. During this same period however a different large house type gained popularity. Two-and-a-half storey houses with complex L- or T-shaped plans, constructed using substantial materials, were built by the wealthier farmers in the district. Like the simpler square-planned house, the L- or T-shaped house was usually constructed of brick veneer on frame and had a large impressive roof with overhanging eaves. However, because of the complexities of the plans these larger houses required substantive changes to the roof shape, the fenestration patterns and detail application. A large L-shaped house at SW 17-11-19W exhibits a number of these features (Plate 41). The brick walls were topped by a truncated hip roof. The contours of the walls were enhanced by a horizontal brick string course that



PLATE 41. Coristine house, SW 17-11-19W, ca. 1890. The exclusion of a verandah that was originally planned for this house provides an unobstructed view of the interesting brick detailing.

ran around the house at the second storey level. This feature was contrasted with the more animated string course of the ground floor which formed surrounds when it rose over window and door openings.

The large square, L- and T-shaped houses marked the climax of pre-1930 house construction in the planning district. After that date, because of monetary restrictions during the 1930s, technological changes affecting roof shapes and stylistic preferences that favoured a bungalow form, more modest farm houses were usually built. The houses built before 1930, however, reveal the vitality of growth that characterized the first fifty years of settlement in the area. Within forty years house development had progressed from humble log shanties and tiny frame shacks isolated in the countryside to the impressive brick houses constructed by wealthy bonanza farmers. With the barns and other farm buildings in the farmyard the old houses in the planning district are physical manifestations of the settlement years.

#### B. Barns

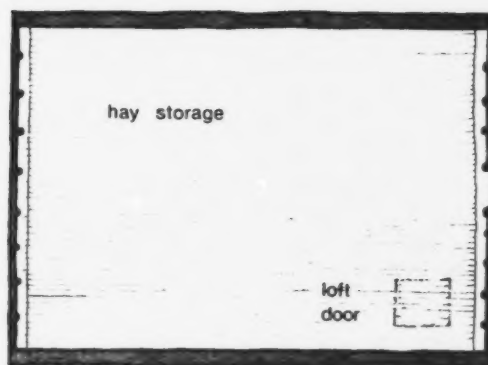
Like the houses in the rural areas of the planning district, the typical stable-loft barns have undergone a considerable, and interesting, evolution over the past one hundred years. The growing size of the farm, technical advances, and changes in available manpower all affected the development of the barn in Elton-Cornwallis. The transformation of the barn in this area has not been completely regular, however. Economic conditions, especially, disrupted or prolonged certain stages in the progression from the earliest crude barns of the 1870s to the large frame barns of the 1920s. Despite these inconsistencies, some basic barn types have been identified. Four main stages in this process are discernible: during the nineteenth century, 1) initial structures, 2) early frame barns, 3) southern Ontario-style barns; and during the twentieth century, 4) plank framed barns. The increasingly sophisticated planning, construction and decoration that characterized barn development in the planning district can be better understood with an analysis of these four barn types.

### Initial Structures (1878-1890)

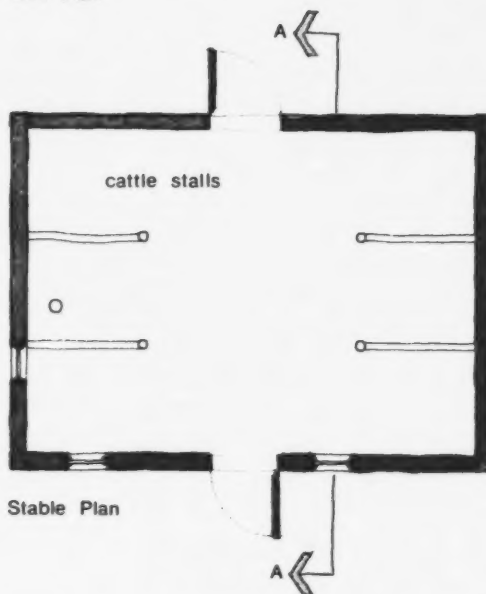
The first barns constructed in the planning district would not likely be recognized as barns today. Small and low, these early barns frequently had the appearance of medium-sized sheds. Lean-tos and roughly constructed log structures comprised the earliest shelters for the few cattle and the small amounts of feed that the early settlers maintained. These could be completely separate structures, but the remaining examples suggest that, in the planning district, the livestock stable and hay storage loft were frequently united in one building. The arrangement could vary. They could either be joined in a single storey structure, or in a  $1\frac{1}{2}$  storey structure with a hay loft above the livestock stable. The latter was the typical arrangement of nearly all barns in western Canada.

The very first barns built around Brandon were straightforward in design and construction. Their basic rectangular plan and simply-constructed log walls provided an adequate shelter for the material and animals inside. Any refinements of design would have been unnecessary, and indeed, extravagant. Like their log houses these first barns were usually considered temporary by their builders, and more pressing concerns took priority.

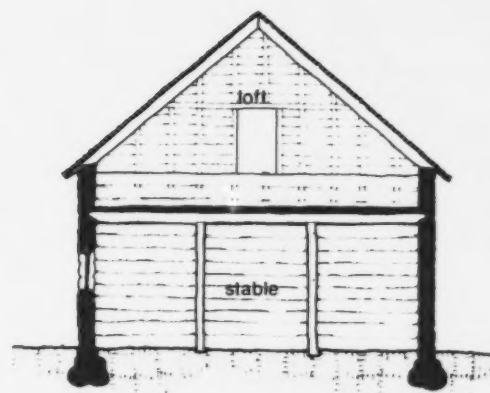
Only three log barns were located in the survey; one is just to the west of Douglas, while the other two are in the Brandon Hills. The barn near Douglas, which appears to be the older of the three, offers a fair representation of early log construction (Plate 42). The exterior walls which were built of 180 to 200 mm (7" to 8") wide logs, either peeled or roughly squared on two sides, were sheathed over with horizontal drop siding (Plate 43). The interior corners suggest that the walls were connected by dovetail joining (Plate 44), the same technique used in pioneer residential construction. The loft gable end walls were constructed with 40 x 80 mm (2" x 4") studs. Because the only function of the loft floor was to store feed, the careful notching used to secure the log walls was unnecessary. The loft floor was made of 50 to 70 mm (2" to 3") wide rails that were simply laid across the larger 100 to 125 mm (4" to 5") wide beams (Plate 45). The roof was, like the loft floor, hastily constructed (Plate 46).



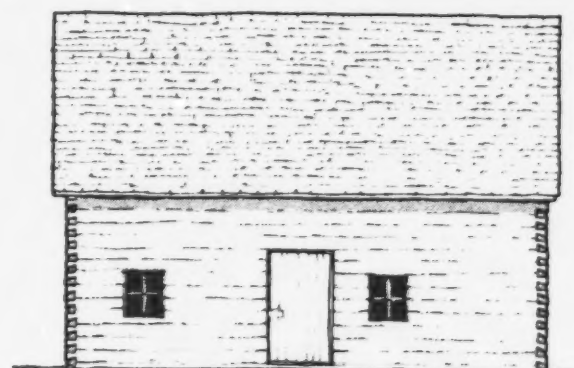
Loft Plan



Stable Plan



Section A-A



South Elevation

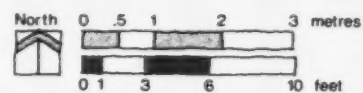


PLATE 42. Early log barn, NW 3-11-17W: plans, section and elevation. The simple stable, with room for six animals, was small and poorly lit.



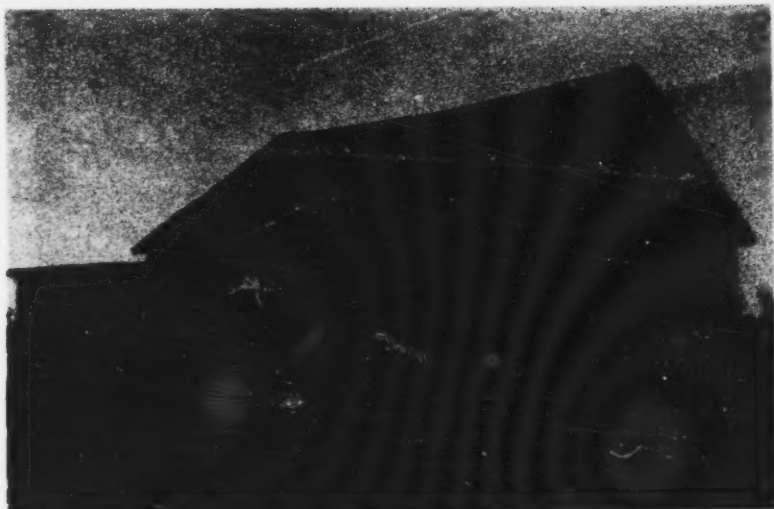


PLATE 43. Early log barn, NW 3-11-17W, ca. 1880.  
The framed lean-to on the left was a later  
addition.



PLATE 44. Early log barn, NW 3-11-17W. These  
dovetail-notched wall logs rose several feet  
above the loft floor.

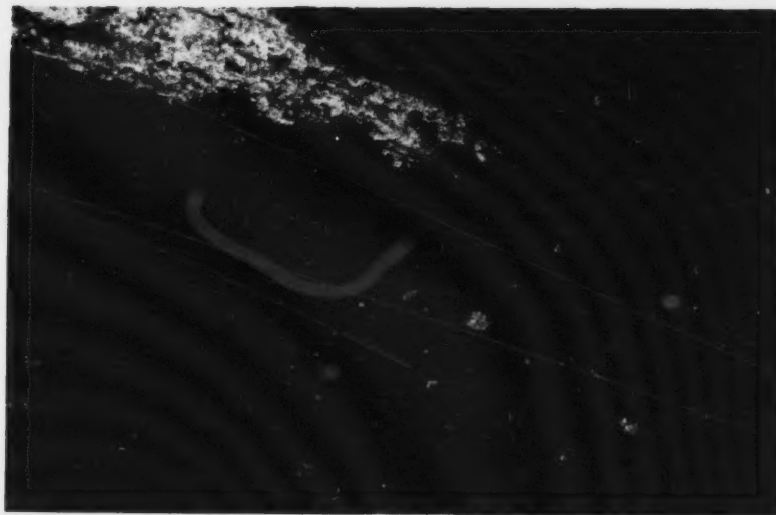


PLATE 45. Early log barn, NW 3-11-17W. This detail on the loft floor system shows the spacing of the rails and the notch cut into the wall log to secure the cross beam.

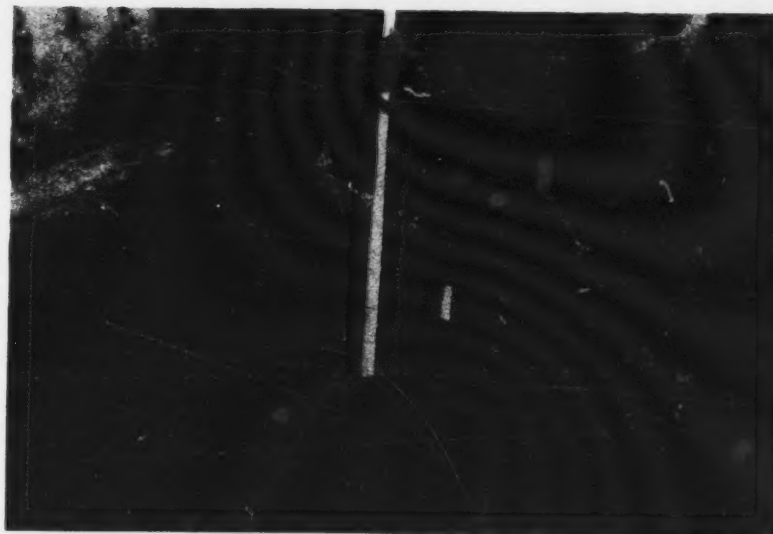


PLATE 46. Early log barn, NW 3-11-17W. The roof construction of this log barn consisted of rough log rafters that sat in a notch in the wall sill plate and were connected at the roof peak by butt joints. Without notching, the rafter ends were cut at rough angles so they could be toe-nailed together. The rafters were covered by planking and shingles.

The construction of log barns required additional work to produce a sound, warm structure. The spaces between the wall logs were filled with chinking, which consisted in this case, of a mortar mixture. In the loft the cracks between wall logs and gable end boards were left open to encourage ventilation.

Although the thickness of the log walls provided heat retention and retarded the spread of fire, these barns took an individual a considerable time to build. The short logs that were available also limited the construction of larger log barns. Additionally, log barns had a rough pioneering appearance that many settlers considered backward and unsightly. Thus, while log barns continued to be built until the turn of the century, settlers who needed larger barns by the mid-1880s considered a different construction method.

#### Early Frame Barns (1880-1900)

Frame construction resolved some of the restrictions inherent in log construction. It became possible, by 1885, to build larger, neater barns, with nearly any plan configuration. However, in Elton-Cornwallis the variety of barn plans allowed by frame construction, although common in other areas, were not immediately employed. It was the increased size and the ease of construction, that local settlers found especially attractive.

The same framing procedures used in house construction proved just as effective for early frame barns. Milled 40 x 80s (2" x 4"s) or 40 x 150s (2" x 6"s) were arranged as frames to form the wall skeletons which were, in turn, covered with horizontal drop siding. The floors and roof were constructed in the same manner as their residential counterparts. Although these new framing procedures altered the general appearance of barns in Elton-Cornwallis there were other features that transformed the entire character of these buildings.

While log barns were usually built on rough stone footings, frame construction required well-built level foundations for a neat, durable structure. In many early frame barns the roughly-dressed fieldstone foundation rose seven feet above grade, creating the walls for a ground floor stable. The foundation wall was frequently built into a rise in the terrain, permitting access to the barn from two

levels: one side of the barn from the higher ground, into the loft, and from the other side into the ground floor stable. Barns with such access at two levels were known as bank barns and a few variations were common in southern Ontario during the nineteenth century. The two most common forms of bank barns were either a simple two storey rectangular building or else a two storey building with the loft overhanging the yard floor on the side of the barn away from the hill. The bank barn with the loft overhang was not common in the planning district. The typical bank barn in Elton-Cornwallis was oriented east-west, with the stable access to the south and the loft access up the ramp, from the north. This orientation created a stable yard on the south side which was warmed by the sun and sheltered from the prevailing north-west winds. In addition, this layout created better air movement in the barn. Vents in the loft permitted natural flow-through ventilation, but because of the earth berm against the north wall, the stable was more difficult to ventilate naturally. There was one other advantage to the location of a barn in a south-facing hill: because cattle and horses were usually separated this layout permitted the location of two distinct entrances on the same side into the barn. All of these inter-related planning and construction developments gave the new framed bank barns in the planning district a sophistication that was difficult to achieve with logs.

The original portion of a barn at SE 4-11-19W, in Cornwallis, is an interesting example of an early framed bank barn (Plates 47 and 48). Built by Robert Hutton in the 1880s when this kind of barn was most common, its planning and construction illustrated general bank barn characteristics (Plates 49 and 50).

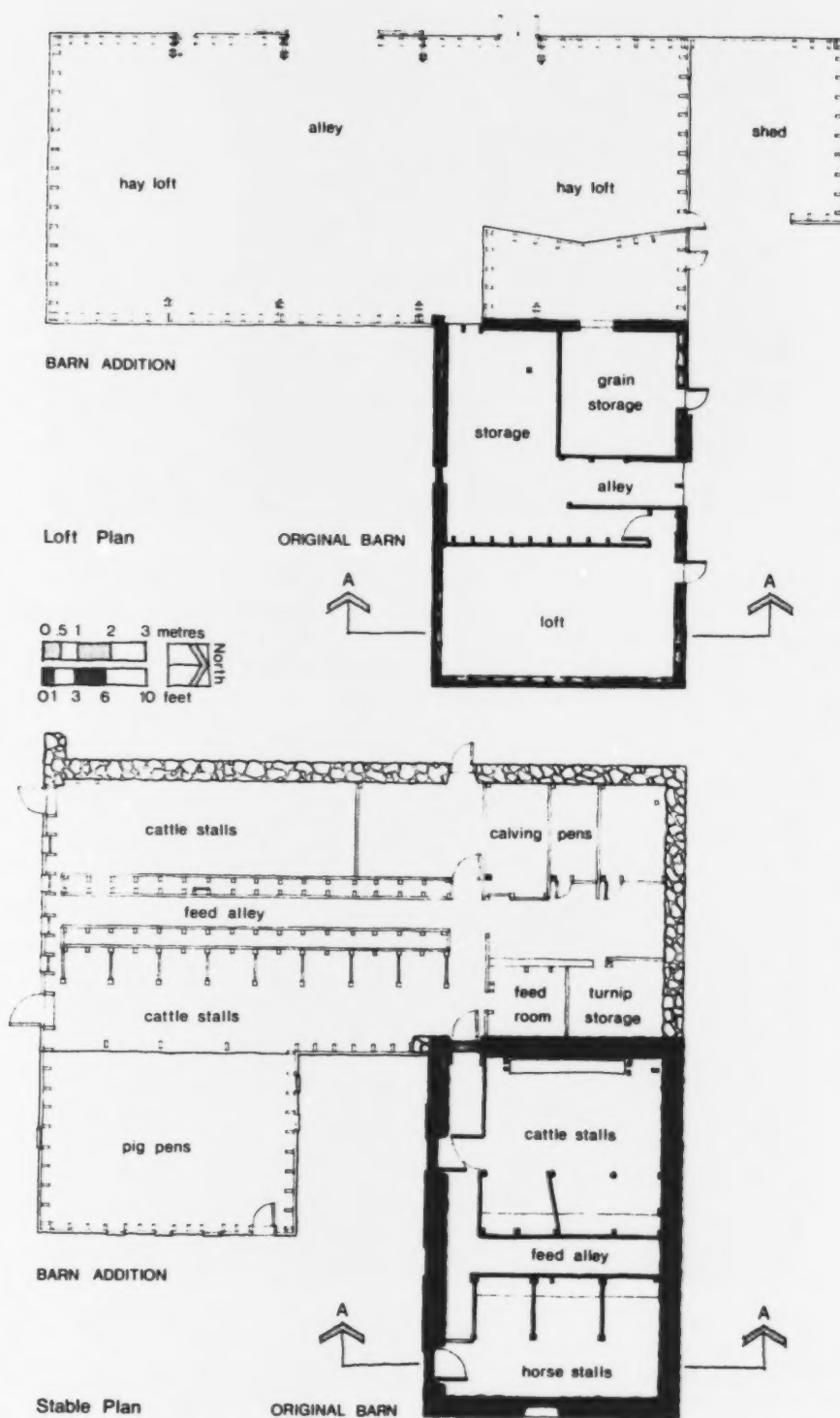
The small fieldstone stable was simply planned. It was divided into two sections: one for horses, one for cattle. Two separate doors on the south permitted access for six horses into one side and ten or twelve cattle into the other. The loft was also straightforward. While it has been partitioned into small rooms, it was originally an open space with a drive-in central alley, flanked by two storage areas.



PLATE 47. Hutton barn, SE 4-10-19W, ca. 1885. Constructed in two parts, there is a significant difference in size between the early barn (on the right) and the addition (on the left). The large addition is the size typical of twentieth century barns.



PLATE 48. Hutton barn, SE 4-10-19W, ca. 1885. The original bank barn, from the northeast, shows the hillock that provides upper level access to the loft. This section has square nails, a feature helpful for dating nineteenth century construction.





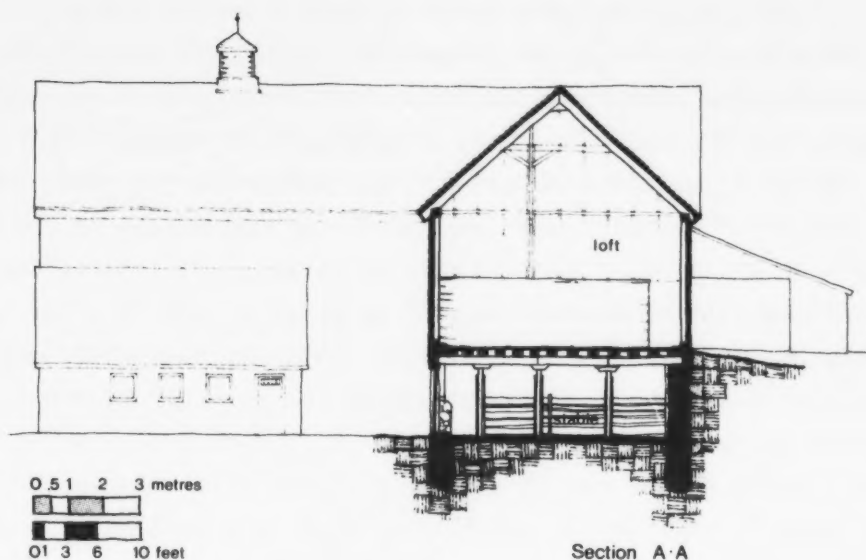


PLATE 50. Hutton barn: cross section of the original barn and elevation of the barn addition. The north ramp to the loft and lower access to the stable that were characteristic of early bank barns are evident here. The typical framing procedures in the loft consisted of stud walls sheathed with horizontal siding and rafters covered with planks and shingles. The rafters were stabilized with a horizontal connecting strut nailed about 0.6 m (2') below the roof peak.

#### Southern Ontario Style Barns (1880-1920)

Small framed bank barns continued to be built until the 1890s. With a small herd of cattle and a limited number of horses, it was not necessary to build a larger structure. Before the turn of the century there were, however, a number of ambitious farmers in the planning district who sought to enlarge their operations. The economic situation in the west had changed considerably by the 1890s and the sudden prosperity encouraged farmers with sufficient capital to expand their operations. With larger herds of cattle and more plough horses small framed bank barns were hardly adequate for their needs.

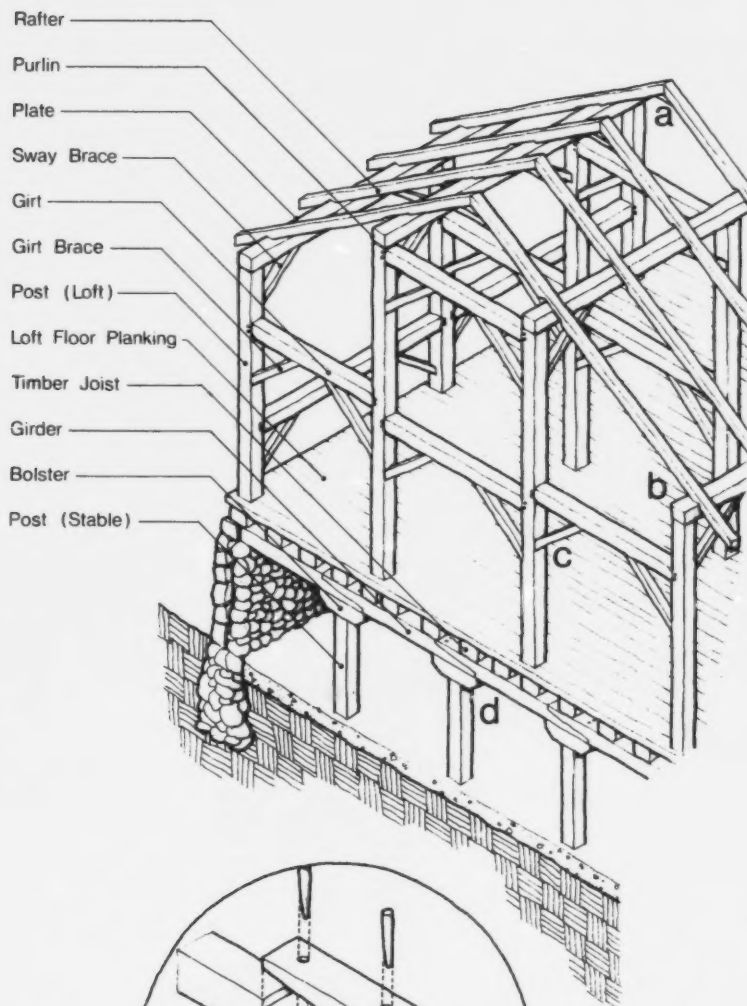
Many farmers simply added a larger frame structure onto the smaller original barn, in the fashion of the Hutton barn. Others, however, erected completely new buildings. Because of the structural complexities involved in building a large barn, it was difficult for settlers to design their own plan. When considering the kind of large barn they would build, it was reasonable that the farmers of the planning district would look to their own heritage for precedents. Most settlers in the Brandon area had originally lived in a few counties in southern Ontario and within these counties a very distinctive banked barn, which came to be called the southern Ontario style barn, was prevalent (Plate 51). In the planning district two distinct sizes of the southern Ontario style barn were built. The smaller barns were generally constructed before 1900; more substantial barns, which still retained basic southern Ontario features, were usually built after 1900.



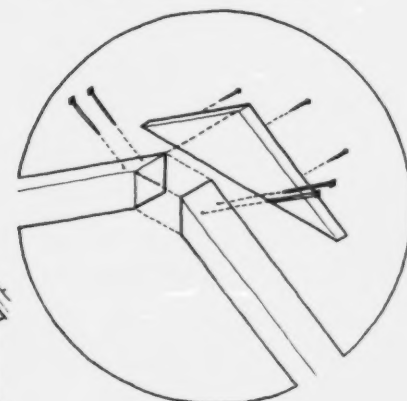
PLATE 51. A southern Ontario style barn, built during the 1860s in the county of Hastings. (Illustrated Historical Atlas of the Counties of Hastings and Prince Edward.)

Besides the north ramp, stone stable and east-west orientation that characterized the earlier bank barns, the typical southern Ontario style barn was distinguished by a heavy internal post-and-beam network, mortise-and-tenon joinery and vertical board-and-batten siding. Large posts and beams were joined in a straightforward fashion (Plate 52). Two hundred-by-two hundred millimetre (8" x 8") posts extended from the loft floor, either to the height of the exterior walls, or to an intermediate point between the wall and the roof peak. Plates and purlins connected these posts respectively, at the top, and supported the 40 x 150 (2" x 6") rafters. Stabilizing beams, also called girts connected all the posts at intermediate levels. Two beams rarely joined a post at the same point; the mortise notches cut in the posts were staggered vertically or laterally so that beam tenons were not aligned and the post was not weakened. Details like the butted ridge joint, the shoulder cut rafter seat, the post and girt connection and the loadbearing scarfed joint typified most southern Ontario construction. The mortise-and-tenon joints that were used for most of these connections, including the diagonal sway bracing between posts and beams, were secured with wooden pegs.

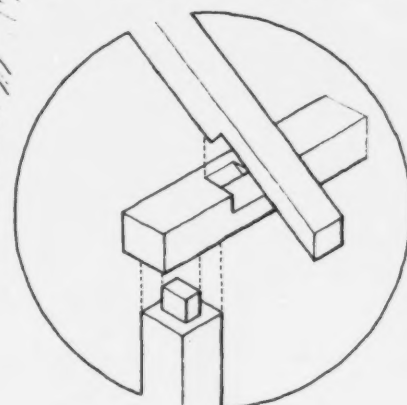
This system of posts and beams in the loft was generally referred to as bentwork. Each set of posts and beams running across the width of the building was called a bent. Barn sizes were frequently expressed in terms of the number of bents; large barns could have seven or eight bents, small barns typically had four bents. The Ferguson barn at SE 30-11-18W, with four bents is a very good example of the smaller southern Ontario style barn (Plates 53 and 54). The planning of this barn, like the earlier framed bank barns, was based on an east-west orientation that permitted dual stable access from the south. The loft, entered from the north hillock, had a central drive-in alley with flanking storage bins (Plate 55). The elements of the bentwork in the Ferguson barn consisted of 250 x 250 (10" x 10") posts, 180 x 180 (7" x 7") connecting girts and 40 x 80 (2" x 4") diagonal braces (Plate 56). All of these connections were secured with straightforward mortise-and-tenon joints (Plates 52c and 57). The weight of the bentwork and the hay loads in the loft were carried by a more haphazard structural system in the stable (Plate 58). This cluttered and heavy



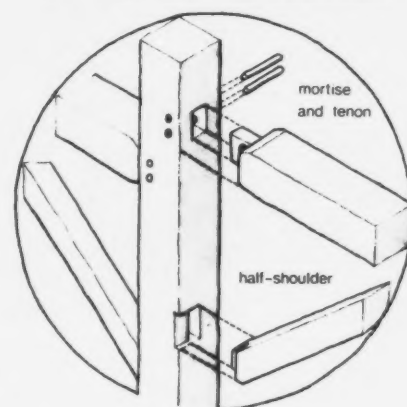
a Butted Ridge Joint



b Shoulder Cut Rafter Seat



c Post and Girt Connection



with Diagonal Bracing

d Loadbearing Scarfed Joint

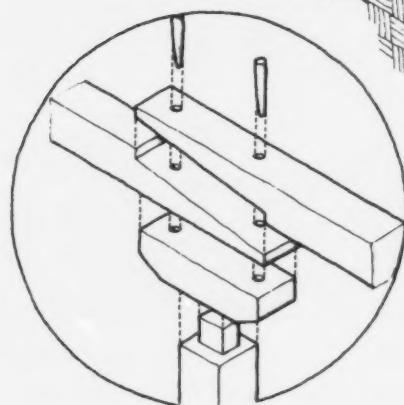


PLATE 52. The construction procedures used for a typical southern Ontario style barn featured some interesting details.

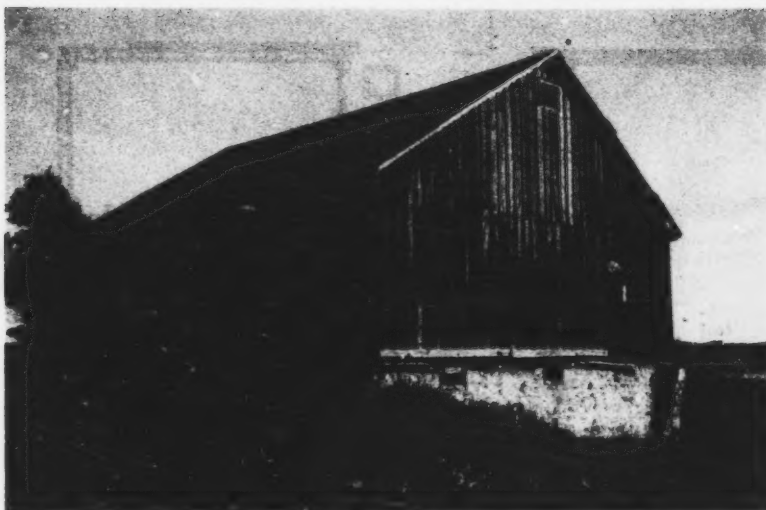


PLATE 53. Ferguson barn, SE 30-11-18W, ca. 1890. This northwest view shows the hill that permits access to the loft. The location of the internal structural members can be discerned by the jogged horizontal joints in the siding.

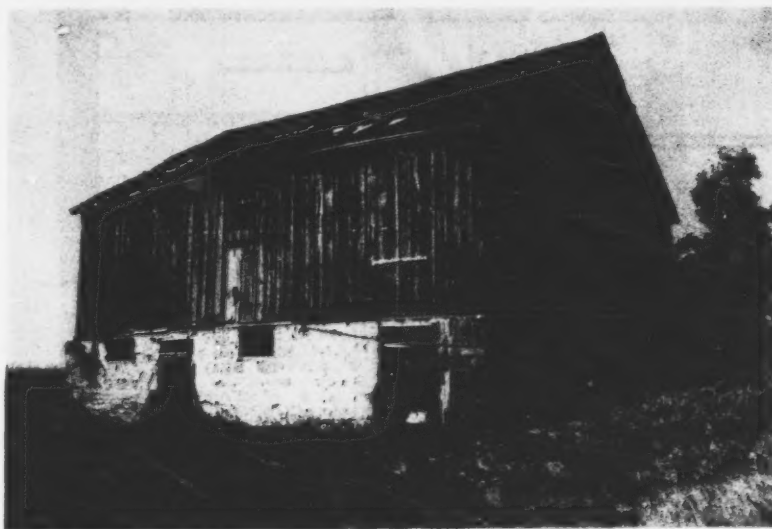


PLATE 54. Ferguson barn. The southwest view features the stable entrances at the ground level, the fieldstone foundation walls and the vertical board-and-batten siding.

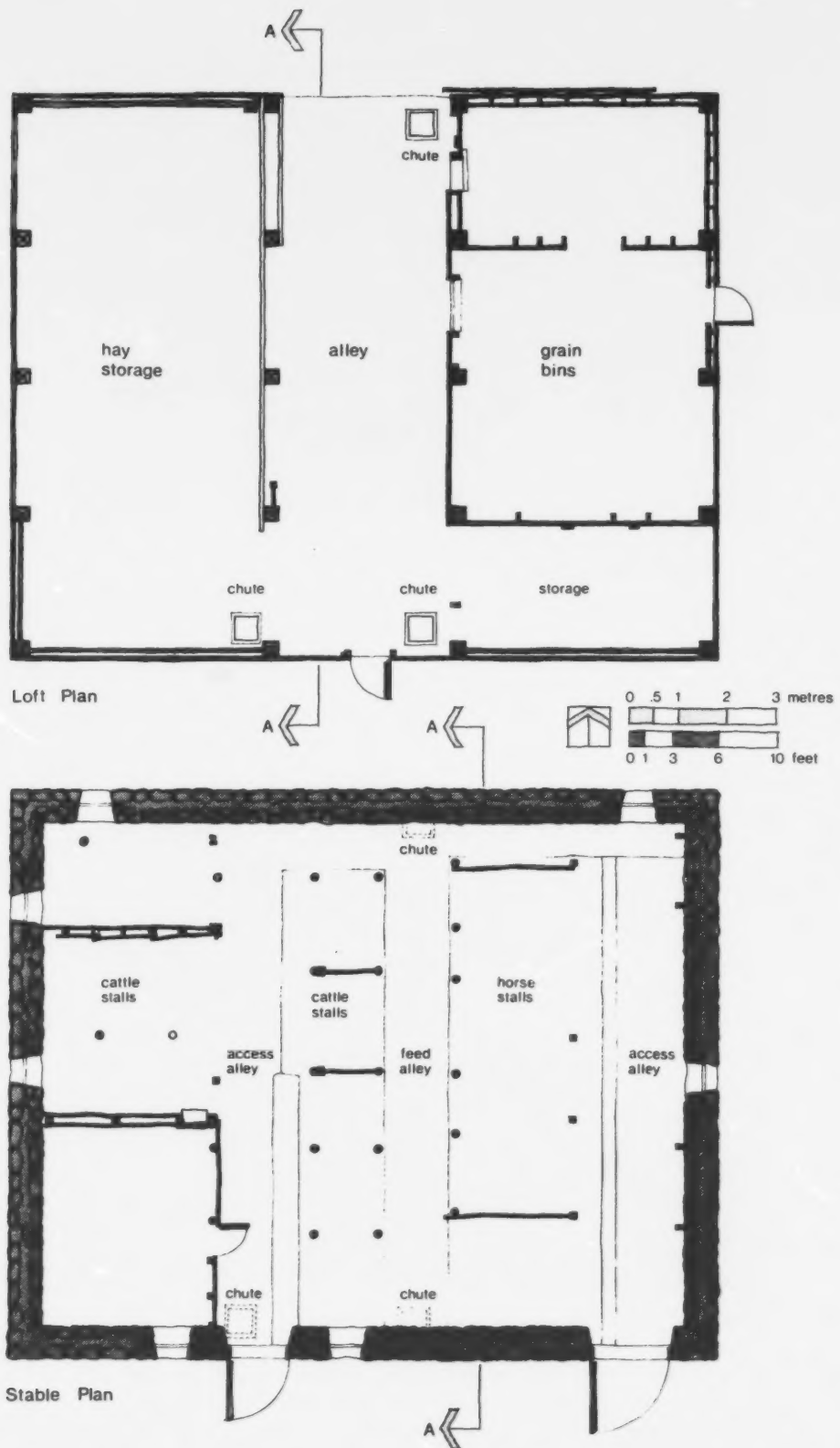
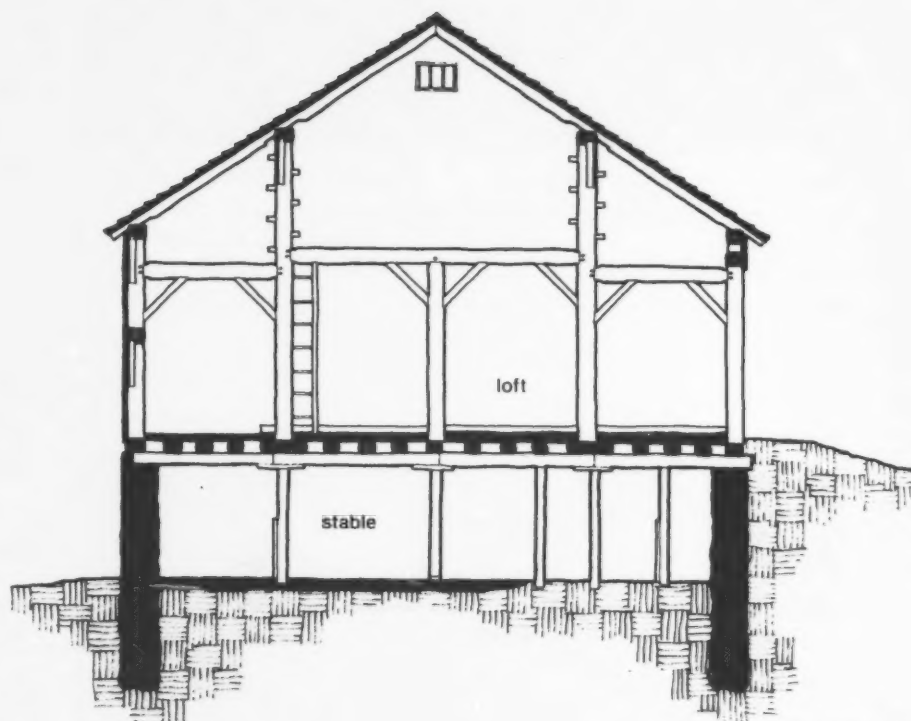


PLATE 55. Ferguson barn: loft and stable plans.





Section A-A

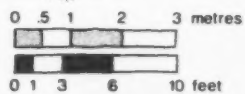


PLATE 56. Ferguson barn: section. This cross section shows the access at two levels, the loft bentwork and the fieldstone walls. The pegs on the two interior posts provided access to the upper areas of the loft.

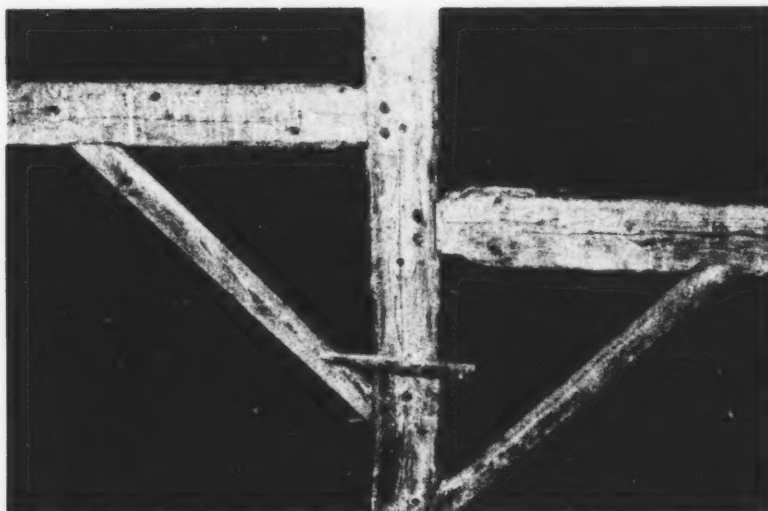


PLATE 57. Ferguson barn: typical post, beam and diagonal brace connection in the loft. The staggered beams were connected to the post with mortise-and-tenon joints. The notched beams created a more secure structural connection as well as an interesting decorative feature.

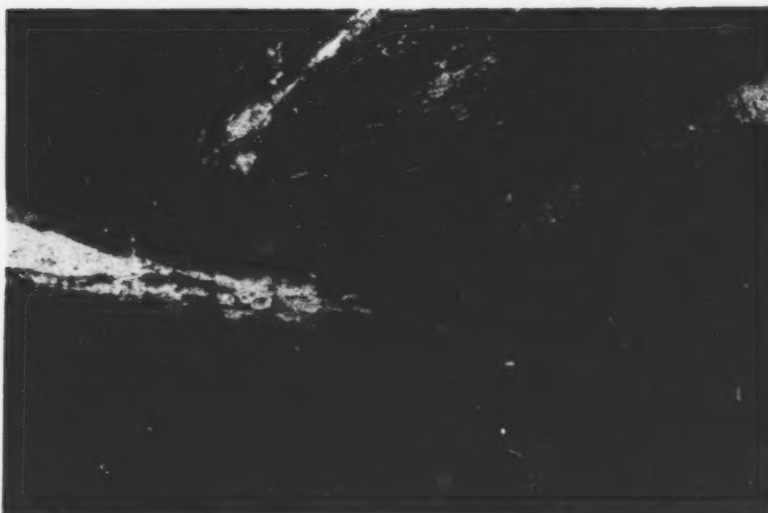


PLATE 58. Ferguson barn: stable ceiling structural system. Because loft posts did not align with the stable posts, or even sat above stable beams, large timber joists were required to transfer loads in the loft to the ground.

support construction in the stable was required because of the insecure structural relationship between the loft and the stable. The situation was somewhat different at the junction of the loft walls and the foundation walls. The loft posts around the perimeter sat rather precariously on a wooden sill plate that was simply laid atop the stone walls. While basic construction shortcomings like these may have warranted the criticism levelled against them by later barn designers, these early southern Ontario style barns did, nevertheless, contain interesting features including ingenious joinery and rationalized internal planning.

Small southern Ontario style barns continued to be built in Elton-Cornwallis for a number of years after 1885. However, just before the turn of the century, as agricultural productivity increased, larger barns became a necessity, and more substantial structures began being erected.

While larger southern Ontario style barns relied on the same orientation, internal layout and construction procedures that characterized their smaller predecessors, certain developments changed the nature of the new barn. A gambrel roof, which provided a larger loft capacity, replaced the moderately-pitched gable roof of earlier southern Ontario style barns (Plate 59). Instead of relying on a hill for access into the loft the new barns were generally accessed by a built-up earth ramp on the north side. Because these barns required a larger work force for their construction, barn-raising bees were often organized. Local neighbours volunteered their time and gathered at the site, where, under the direction of a carpenter, they constructed the stable walls and structural frame (Plate 60).

The larger loft and stable areas in these new barns required different plan organizations. The loft plan of the typical small southern Ontario barn was enlarged, in the larger barn, by an additional alley and adjacent storage area. The stable was usually doubled in size and frequently included a root cellar and foaling and calving pens against the north wall.

A number of these large southern Ontario style barns were built around Brandon before 1920. The McCallum barn, built just at the turn of the century, is a very interesting example of the mature southern Ontario style barn (Plates 61 and 62). The bentwork in the

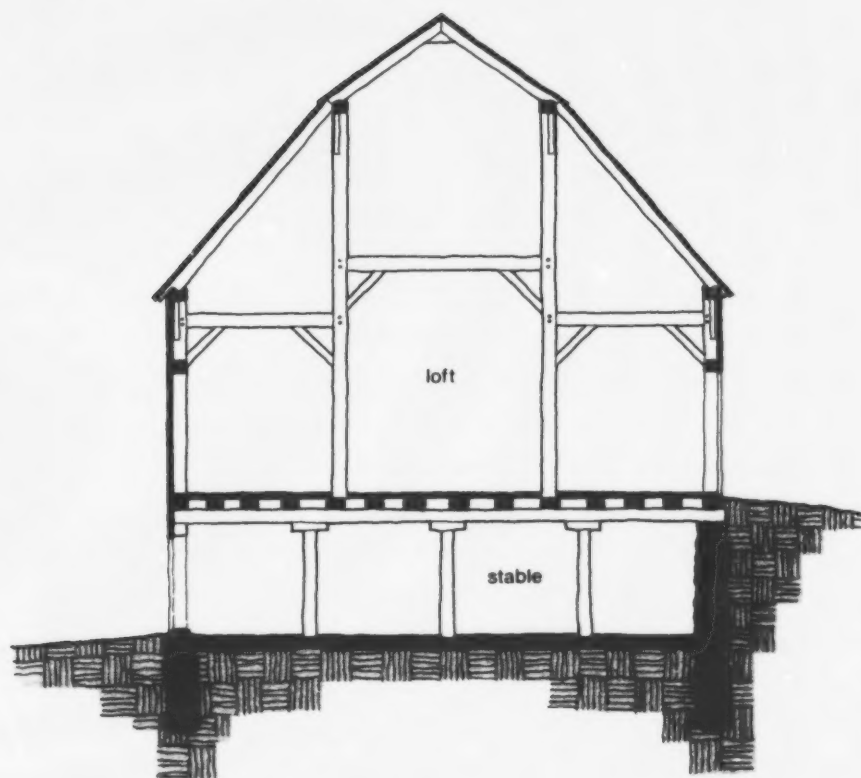


PLATE 59. Typical gambrel-roofed southern Ontario style barn. The central bay was narrower and the two centre posts were taller than barns with a gable roof. The rest of the barn was constructed and planned like earlier southern Ontario style barns.

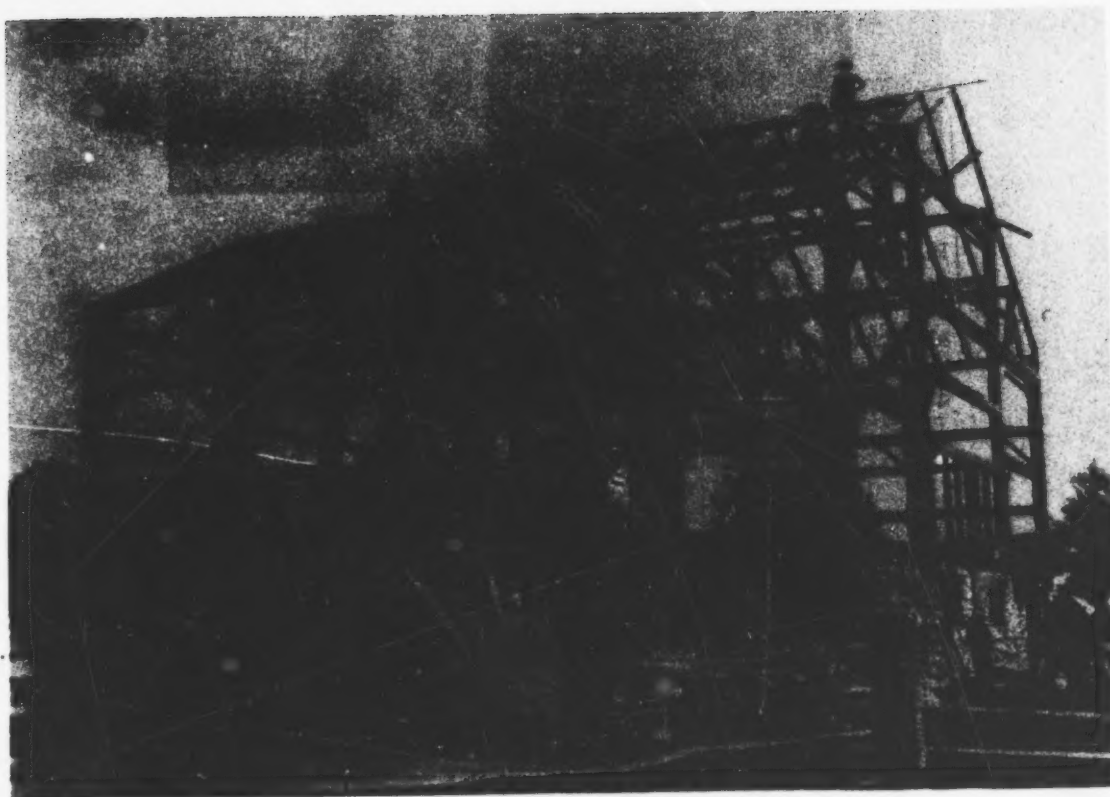


PLATE 60. A barn-raising near Douglas nears completion of the structural skeleton on this six bent barn. The long built-up ramp was covered with large logs. The planking used for the siding and the roof can be seen inside the barn, on the left. The siding and roofing were usually finished by the farmer, his sons and hired help. (F. Willmott.)

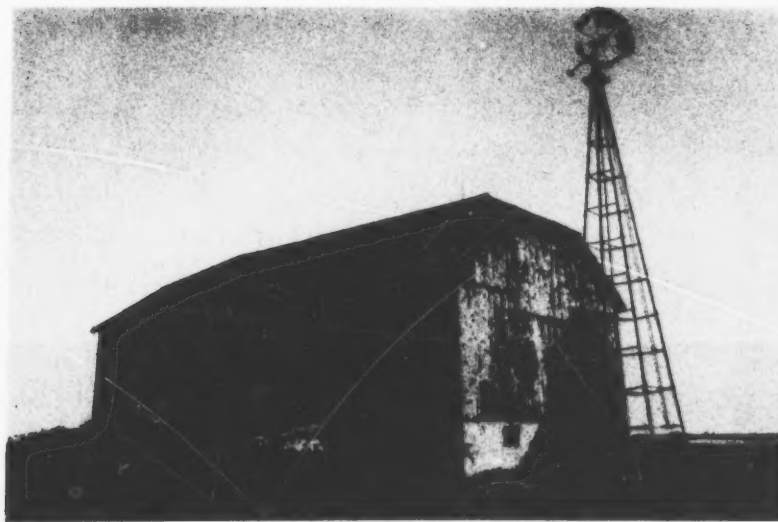


PLATE 61. McCallum barn, SW 3-11-18W, 1900. This northwest view shows the built-up north ramp and the characteristic gable end jog in the vertical sheathing. This jog, the reverse of the Ferguson barn jog (Plate 53), was required by the slightly different bent arrangement.



PLATE 62. McCallum barn. The dual stable access, sturdy fieldstone walls and vertical siding can be seen from this southeast view.



loft and the construction of the stable reflect the basic similarities to the Ferguson barn (Plate 63). The planning, however, of the McCallum barn represents an advance over the Ferguson barn. Two access alleys divided the large loft into three storage areas while, in the stable, the stalls were arranged into a neater grid (Plate 64). Although more animals could be housed in the McCallum barn, the individual stalls were not appreciably better than those in the Ferguson barn (Plate 65). The addition of the root cellar, however, made the McCallum stable more useful (Plate 66).

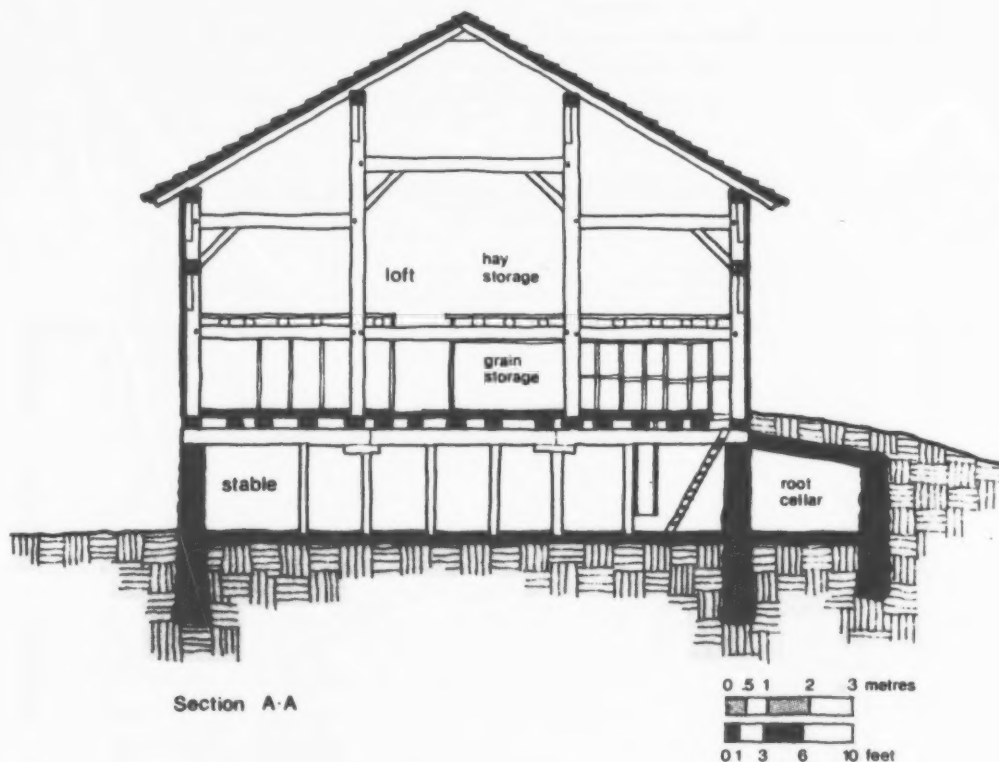
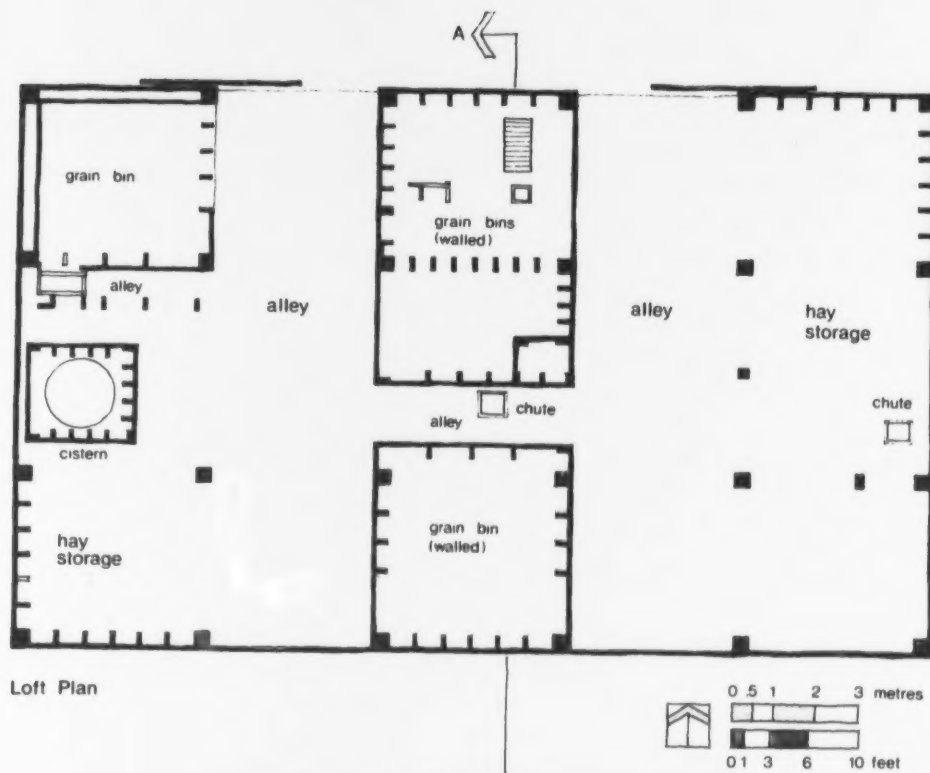
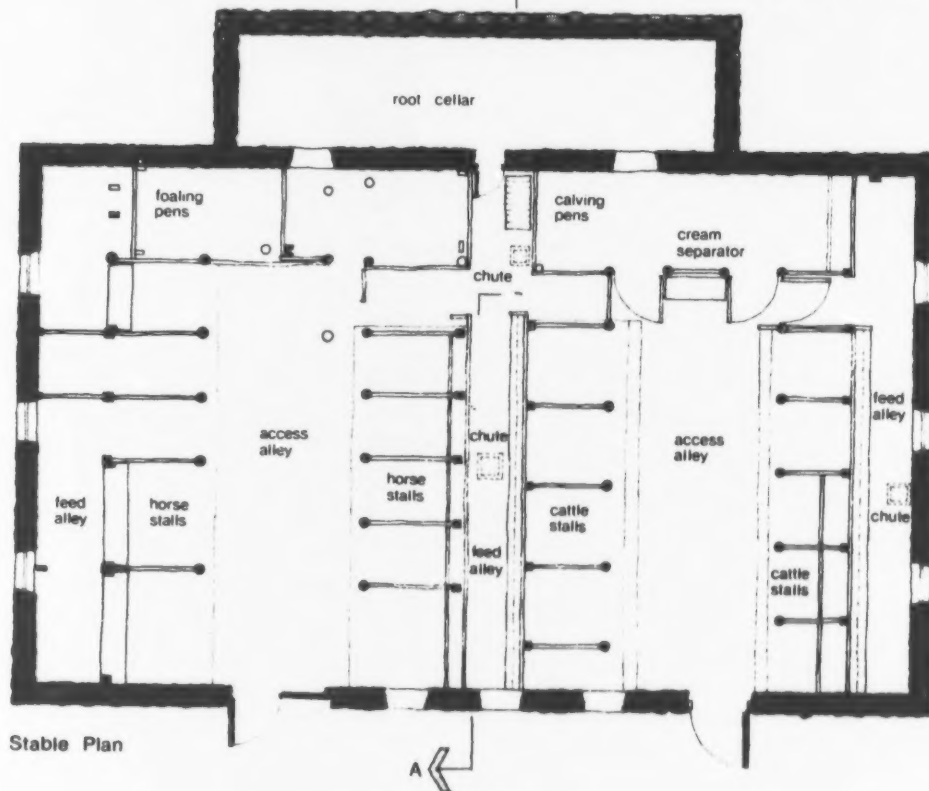


PLATE 63. McCallum barn: section. This cross-section shows the heavy fieldstone foundation walls, the root cellar under the built-up ramp and the loft bentwork.



Loft Plan



Stable Plan

PLATE 64. McCallum barn: loft and stable plans.



PLATE 65. McCallum barn. Cattle stalls had lower dividing boards than the horse stalls.

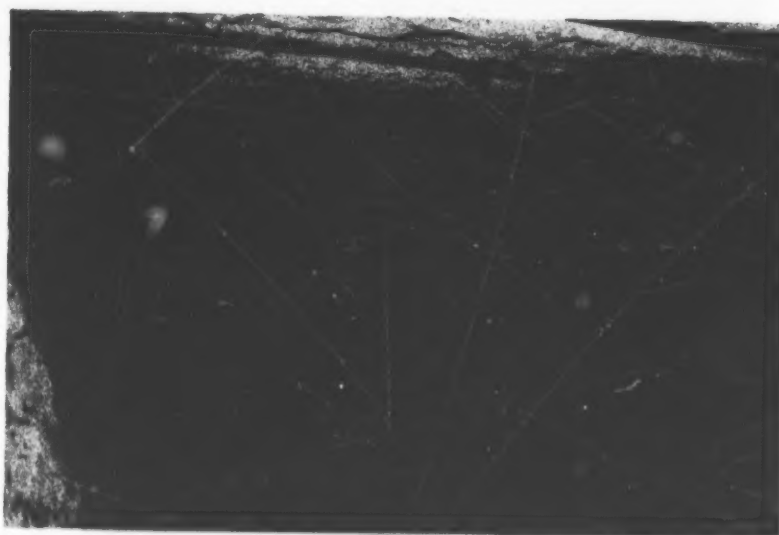


PLATE 66. McCallum barn. The root cellar ceiling, under the north ramp, was actually a monolithic slab of concrete, I-beams and metal debris. The cellar could be entered from the stable or through a door, now sealed, on the west side of the ramp.

Unfortunately, the McCallum barn was being dismantled during the course of this report. The demolition does, however, provide an excellent opportunity to see the interior bentwork and the complex mortise-and-tenon joints that characterized southern Ontario construction (Plate 67).

Although the McCallum barn was carefully planned and built, problems with the construction were still evident. The loft posts sat closer to the main post lines in the stable but they were not perfectly aligned, and large, roughly hewn joists were still required to transfer structural loads from the loft to the beams and then to the offset stable posts (Plate 68). Other irregularities in construction were apparent in the stable. The main beams were adequately secured to the stable walls, but occasionally, when they sat above a window, a heavier lintel over the opening was required (Plate 69).

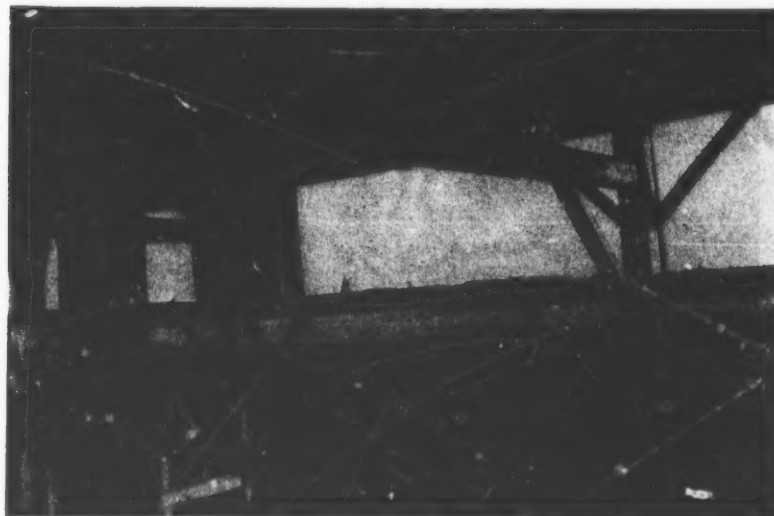


PLATE 67. McCallum barn. The vertical siding removed from the south side of the barn reveals the heavy timber framework.



PLATE 68. McCallum barn. This stable ceiling construction detail indicates the amount of timber still required to support the loft weight.



PLATE 69. McCallum barn. Haphazard planning resulted in situations like this, where additional reinforcement had to be made to the structure.

The roof of the McCallum barn was not actually typical of the mature southern Ontario style barn. While most large southern Ontario style barns in Elton-Cornwallis had gambrel roofs, the McCallum barn was designed with a hipped gable roof. Both of these roof types provided a more aerodynamically efficient form than the simple gable of the earlier southern Ontario style barns. The gambrel, however, was considered by many barn builders to be the better roof profile as it provided a larger loft capacity.

#### Barn Transitions (1900-1930)

Despite some irregularities in construction, the McCallum barn represents the excellence that large hand-crafted southern Ontario style barns had attained in the planning district. By the turn of the century, however, the specific failings of structure and planning that affected the McCallum barn were being assessed by barn builders. The structural continuity between the stable and the loft was improved in many barns (Plate 70) while in others the standard north ramp was made smaller to admit more light and improve ventilation in the stable (Plate 71). By the turn of the century other technological advances changed the nature of barns in the planning district. New devices, like hay slings, provided an easier, more economical way of moving feed around in the loft (Plate 72). Paralleling this development was the decline in the importance of the horse. As mechanized devices began replacing horsepower, the whole barn could be devoted to cattle production which, by 1910, was becoming a viable part of the agricultural economy in the planning district. A longitudinal barn with a long central alley became as common as the standard southern Ontario layout.

The modestly-sized Kneeshaw barn, built in 1905 at SW 21-9-17W shows the introduction of some of these developments (Plate 73). The southern Ontario style ramp was excluded and access into the stable was gained through two doors in the north or two doors on the south (Plate 74). The construction of this barn resolved the discrepancy between loft and stable connections (Plate 75). While construction details reveal some dependence on southern Ontario joinery (Plate 76) the bentwork was simplified by eliminating some horizontal members. This development permitted easier movement in the loft.





PLATE 70. The rationalization of the structural system in later southern Ontario style barns led to loft and stable posts being connected in the same vertical line. This development also eliminated the need for numerous heavy stable joists.



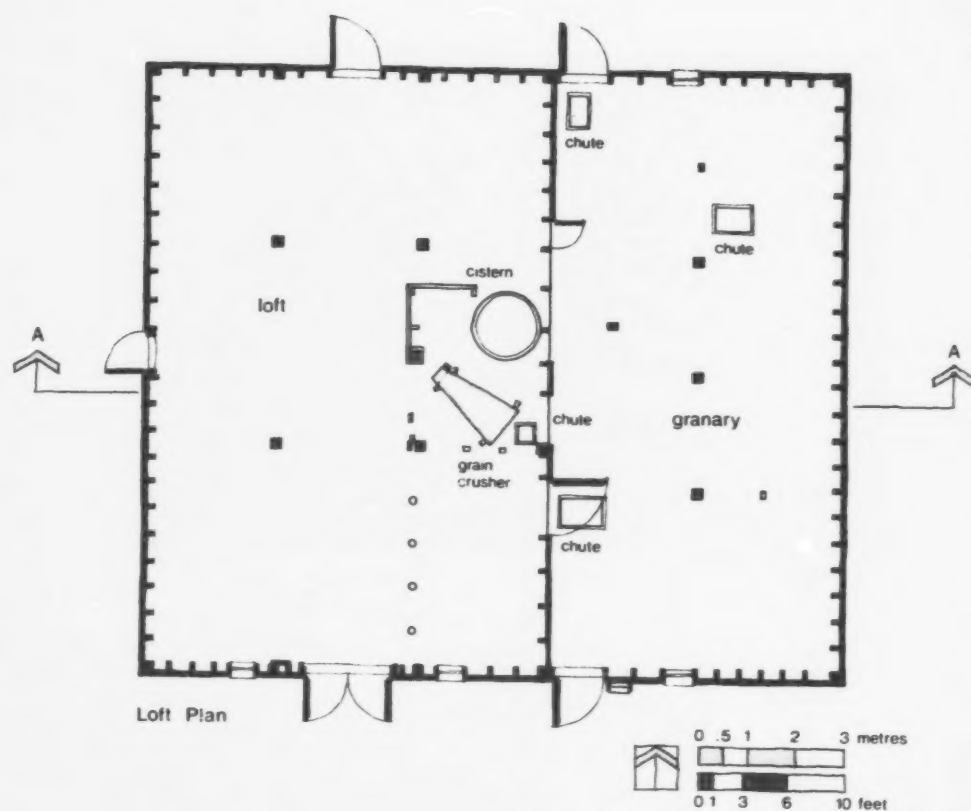
PLATE 71. McPherson barn, NE 9-9-18W, 1923. The narrow north ramp on this barn allowed light and air into the northern half of the stable. The typical southern Ontario stone stable walls were replaced with a lighter sheathed frame.



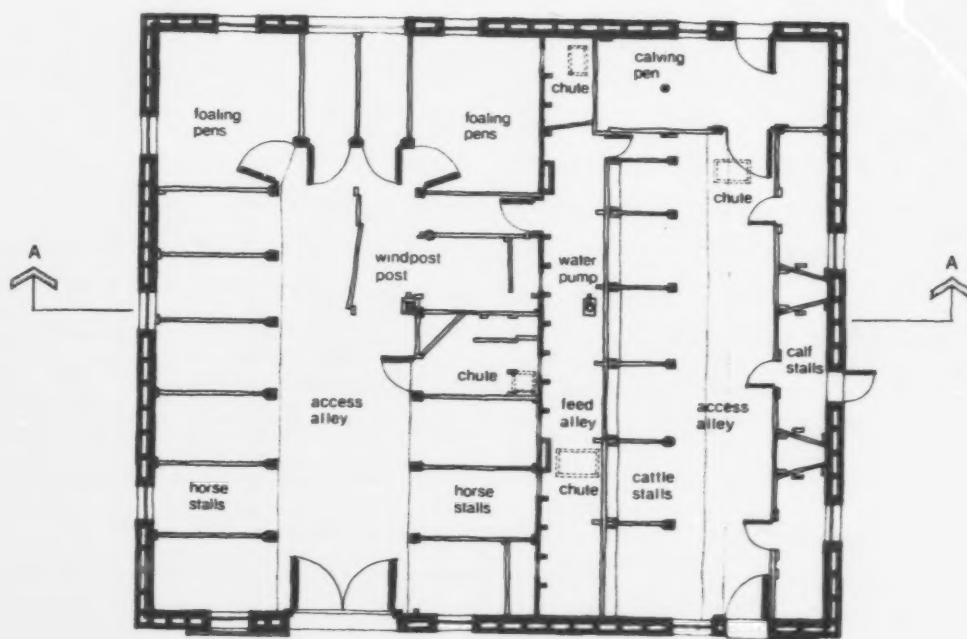
PLATE 72. A hay sling, which was connected to a moveable pulley attached to a track in the roof peak, could distribute hay to various parts of the loft. (Provincial Archives Manitoba.)



PLATE 73. Kneeshaw barn, SW 21-9-17W, 1905. This view from the southeast shows the hay sling's extended track which was added after the barn's construction. The windmill was used to provide power for moving and crushing feed inside the barn.



Loft Plan



Stable Plan

PLATE 74. Kneeshaw barn: loft and stable plans.

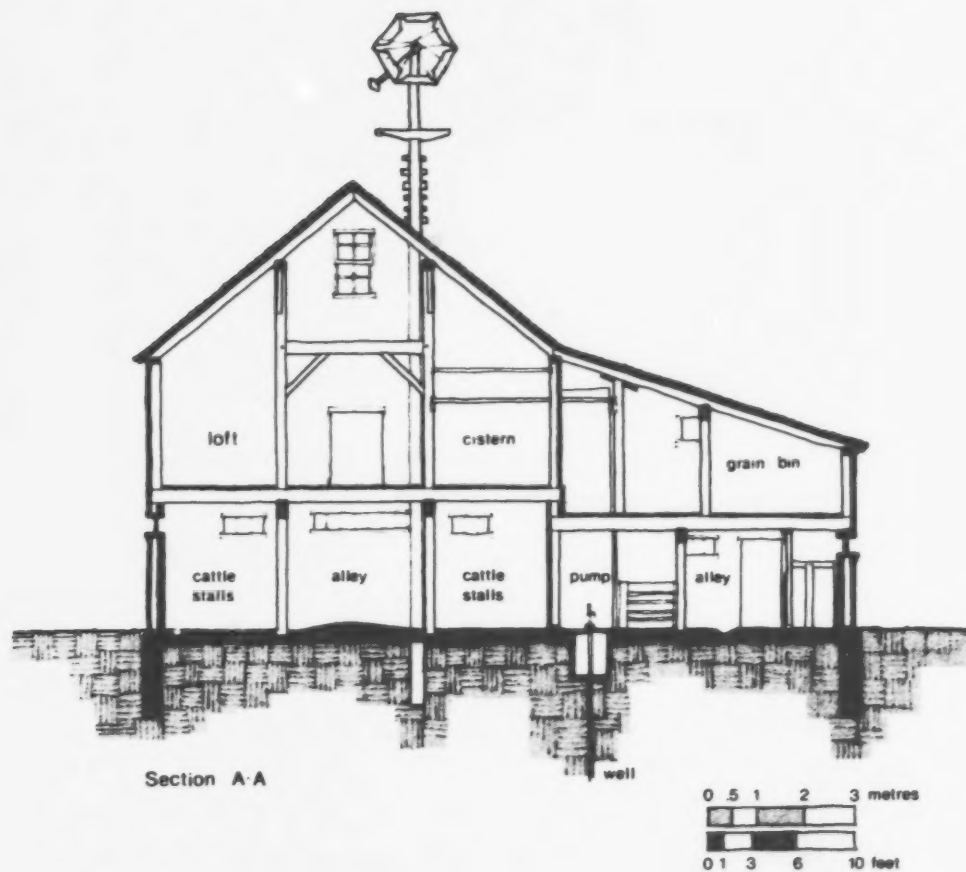


PLATE 75. Kneeshaw barn: section. The posts from the loft extended directly in a line to the stable posts.

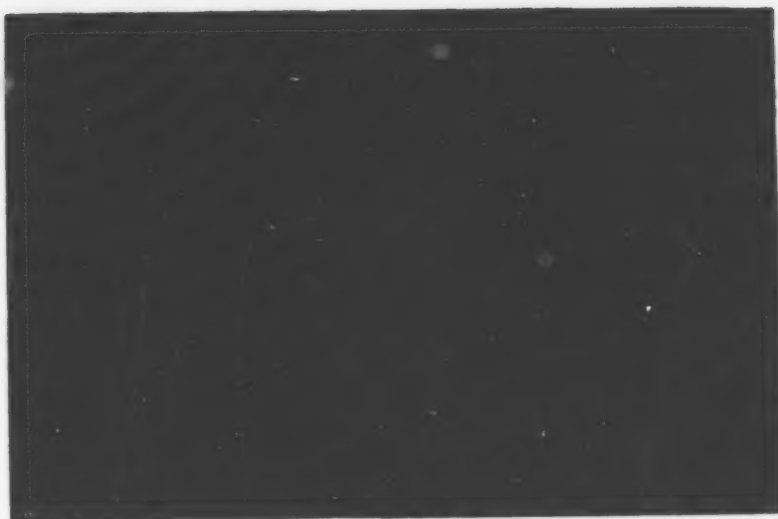


PLATE 76. Kneeshaw barn. Southern Ontario style mortise-and-tenons were used for this beam, post and diagonal brace connection in the loft.

In the Brandon Hills the settlers from Nova Scotia introduced a structural system that also created a more open loft (Plate 77). Each bent was connected to the next only by a purlin; the welter of horizontal connectors that provided external wall and loft stability in southern Ontario style barns were excluded in Nova Scotia style barns (Plate 78). The simpler bent arrangement permitted much easier movement in the ship-like loft. However while hay slings were often incorporated inside these barns there was no easy source of access into the loft. The southern Ontario style north ramp was not included with Nova Scotia style barns and grain had to be thrown into the loft through 1200 x 1200 (4' x 4') hatch doors.

#### Plank-Framed Barns (1900-1940)

While all the advances mentioned produced slightly more efficient barns than southern Ontario designs, some form of heavy loft bentwork was still required in these later buildings for structural stability. This situation was dramatically altered, however,



PLATE 77. Roddick barn, SE 17-9-18W, 1904.



PLATE 78. Roddick barn. The builders of Nova Scotia style barns concentrated the main structural supports away from the walls, increasing internal stability and freeing the external walls for frame construction.



with the introduction of plank framing (Plate 79). This system not only permitted the construction of a roof without the use of heavy, and increasingly costly, timber posts, but the bracing profiles of the trusses created a gambrel roof shape.

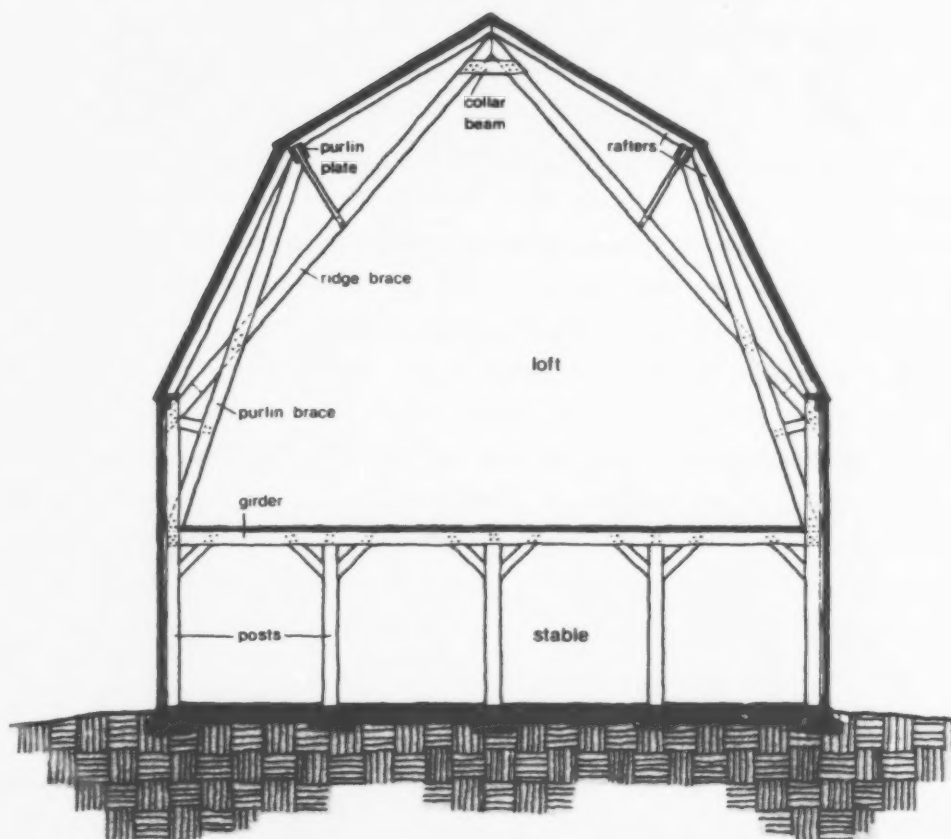


PLATE 79. Plank-framed gambrel-roofed barns were built around the turn of the century.

Barns built with plank framing were ambitious in design and scale. The Shields barn, built from 1910 to 1912, at NW 8-9-19W, reveals the advanced state that barn building in the Brandon area had attained (Plates 80 and 81). While the barn was built with concrete stable walls and was not planned with a long central alley, the huge open loft was very modern (Plate 82). Constructed using a series of plank trusses, the voluminous space in the loft allowed a hay sling complete freedom of movement along a track in the roof peak (Plate 83). Hay and grain could be lifted from wagons on the east side and shifted easily through any part of the loft (Plate 84). The Shields barn was built as a physical and technical rival to the new livestock barn at the Brandon Experimental Farm. The barn at the experimental farm burned in 1916 and the Shields barn now stands as one of the few remaining large truss-roofed barns in the Brandon area.

Farmers who built barns after the First World War usually relied on the same internal organization and construction procedures that were developed in earlier structures. Because the new barns were generally built exclusively for dairy cattle the longitudinal stable plan became predominant. New mechanical devices like the extended hay sling changed the profile of the barns (Plate 85), while new roof shapes were developed with later technological advances (Plate 86). However, it was the gambrel roof, the longitudinal stable alley, the hay sling and the loft framework developed for earlier barns that provided the basis for many later barn designs.

#### C. Other Farm Buildings

While houses and barns in the planning district have undergone greater architectural and constructional change during the past hundred years than have smaller farmyard buildings, the latter are not without interest. Technical developments have caused interesting changes to these buildings, especially the grain elevators.

#### Granaries and Elevators

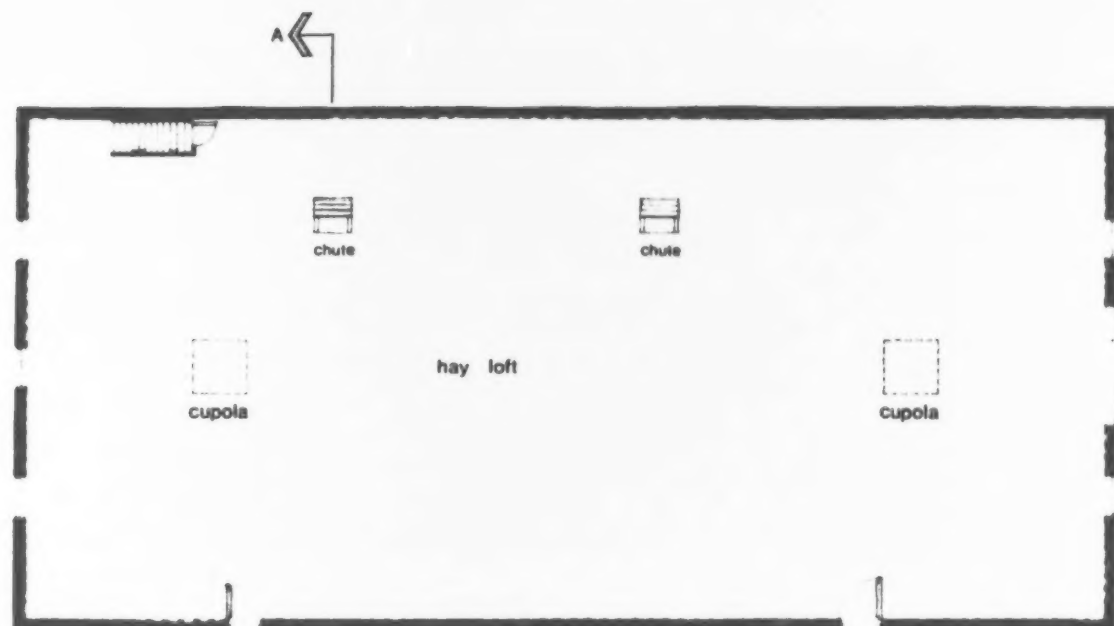
As the farmyard developed, granaries were added to contain the growing quantities of crops. One frame granary at NW 13-9-19,



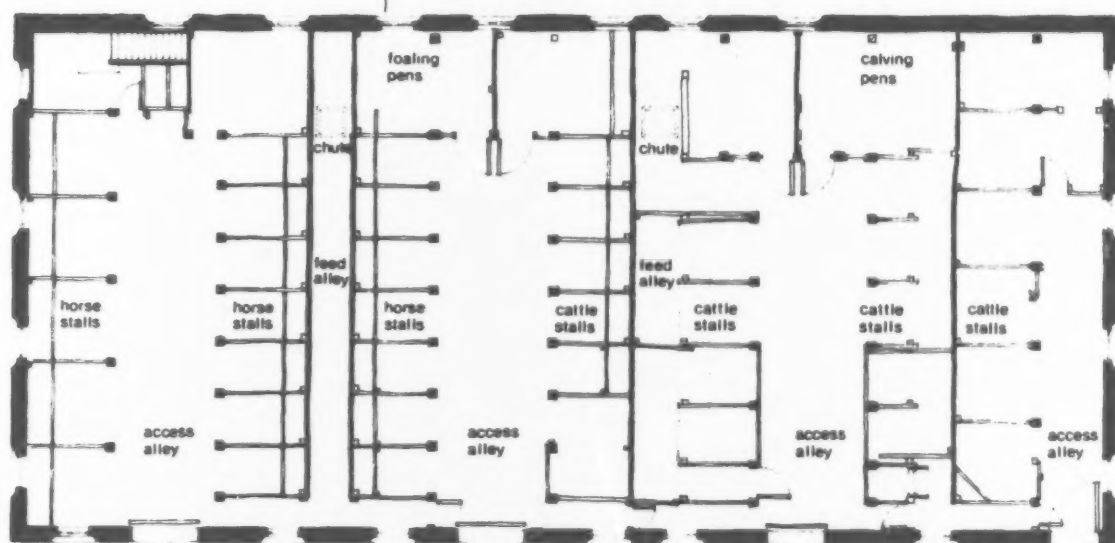
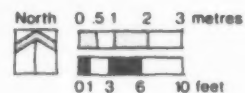
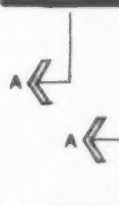
PLATE 80. Shields barn, NW 18-9-19W, 1910-1912:  
southeast view.



PLATE 81. Shields barn: northwest view.



Loft Plan



Stable Plan



PLATE 82. Shields barn. Without the necessity of supporting a heavy loft network the spacious stable was well-organized; the western section was for a few horses, the two eastern sections were for cattle.

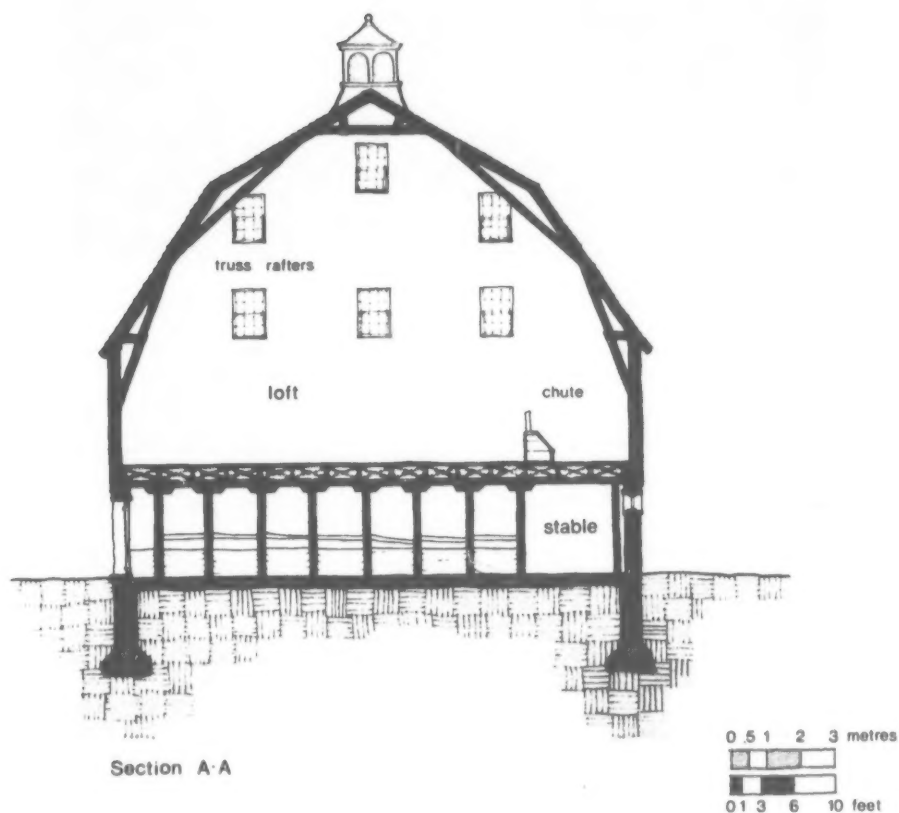


PLATE 83. Shields barn. The hay sling would be rolled out along a track in the roof peak to a point a few feet beyond the east gable end. From this position hay and grain could be hoisted through a huge door into the loft and deposited anywhere inside.

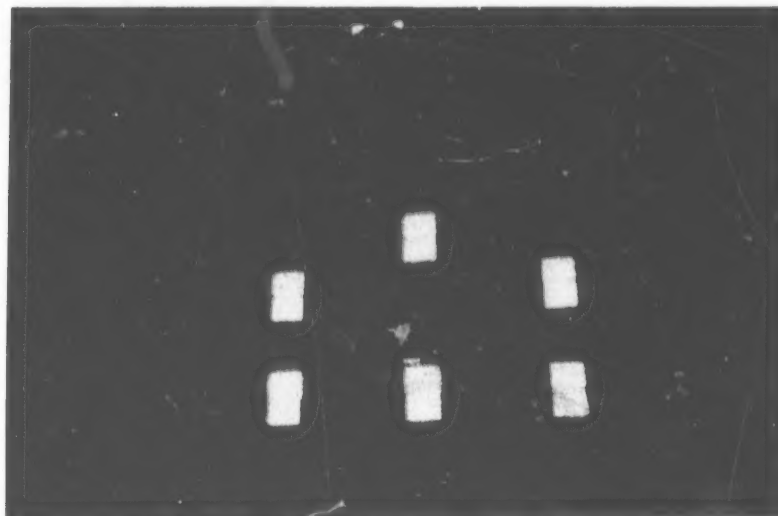


PLATE 84. Shields barn. The hay sling track was suspended below the cross-bracing in the voluminous loft.

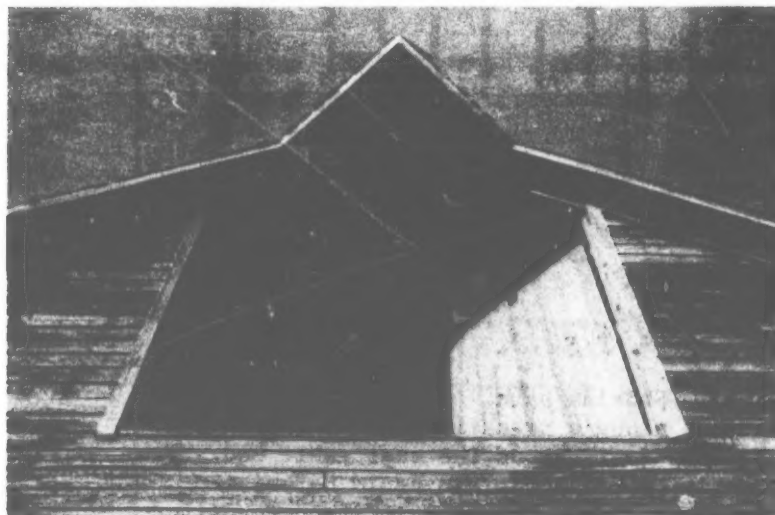


PLATE 85. The extended hay sling required the addition of a roof peak that provided protection for feed lifted up to the loft. Loads could be pulled inside more easily through the large loft doors.





PLATE 86. Hamilton barn, NW 34-10-19W, 1949.  
The roof of this barn was constructed with  
laminated trusses that were built in Souris.

built around 1890 is of typical size and form for the period (Plate 87). Its construction also is typical. The 40 x 80 (2" x 4") building frame was sheathed on the outside with horizontal drop siding, and on the inside with planking. This construction procedure not only produced a sturdier building in which to store grain, but it also created a smooth interior that was easy to clean.

Larger granaries were slightly more complex. Instead of wagons pulling alongside the building and bags being pitched through a small door, wagons were pulled into an alleyway in the granary. From here, loose grain could simply be shovelled into high-walled bins on



PLATE 87. Granary, NW 13-9-10W. The hatch in the gable end was used for loading and unloading the grain. Bags of grain were usually pitched from a wagon up to the opening.

either side of the alley. A granary at NE 32-9-19W, built in 1892 shows this development (Plate 88).

Grain elevators began to replace the simpler granaries, particularly in south central Elton, around the turn of the century. While the two earlier types of granary relied on manual labour, grain elevators contained a system that mechanically distributed grain to the bins. A leg, which consisted of a series of small buckets attached to a vertical conveyor belt, lifted the grain up to a distribution box where it was dispersed to the individual bins. The McCallum elevator, built in 1904 at NW 3-11-18W, was a particularly good example of a grain elevator (Plate 89). A central corridor separated the building into two storage areas that were each subdivided into three bins (Plate 90). The capacity of the individual bins was 43,640 litres (1200 bushels). Above the alley were located two smaller slant-floored bins (Plate 91). The capacity of the west bin was 15,550 litres (400 bushels), while the east bin could hold 9090 litres (250 bushels). Wagons were pulled up to the west door where grain was dumped into the lower grain box. From there it was lifted up the two elevator legs to the distribution box. Spouts connected to the distribution box directed the grain into one of the eight bins. Unfortunately this fine elevator was dismantled in 1982, leaving only five other grain elevators in the district.

#### Equipment Sheds

Farm equipment, like agricultural produce, required storage facilities with specific forms and functions. These simple structures were typically plain in appearance, differentiated from each other by the specific requirements of the stored machinery. A shed at SE 3-11-19W, built in 1900, housed a threshing machine (Plate 92). The large doors and high roof were required to accommodate the machine. A larger shed at SW 9-11-19W likely houses a variety of tillage implements (Plate 93). The diversity of door heights and widths and their irregular spacing reveal the informal composition that the utilitarian requirements of sheds generally encouraged. A few equipment storage buildings, however, built by wealthier farmers, were quite distinctive.



PLATE 88. Lowe granary, NE 32-9-19W, 1892. The simple drive-in granary was altered by the addition of a small belt-driven bucket elevator, whose distribution head projects through the roof, a small feed mill and shed-roofed storage areas on each side.



PLATE 89. McCallum elevator, NW 3-11-18W, 1904. Grain was retrieved from the spouts that project from the walls.

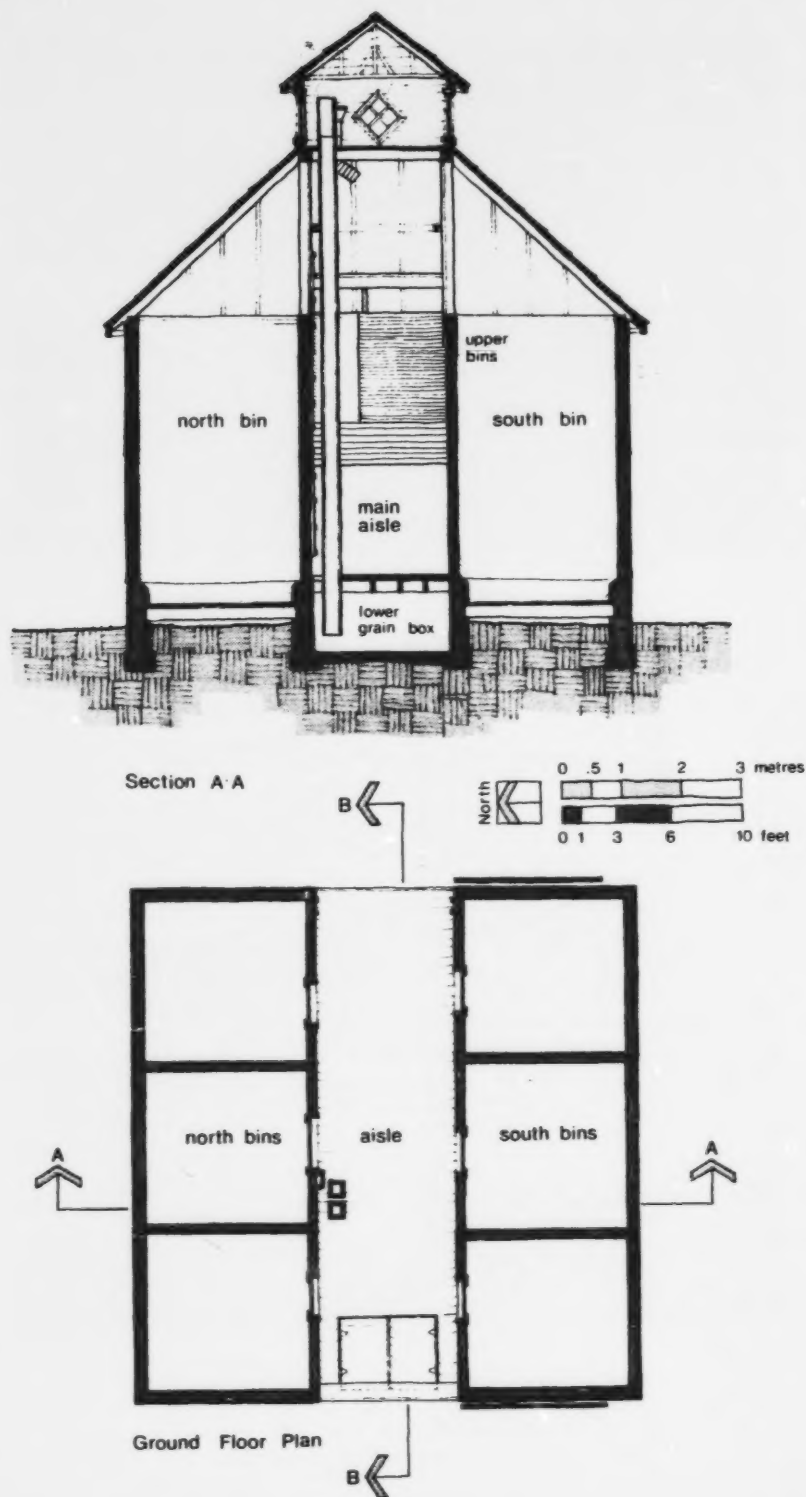


PLATE 90. McCallum elevator: ground floor plan and section. The cribbed bin walls were constructed of stacked 40 x 80s (2" x 4"s).

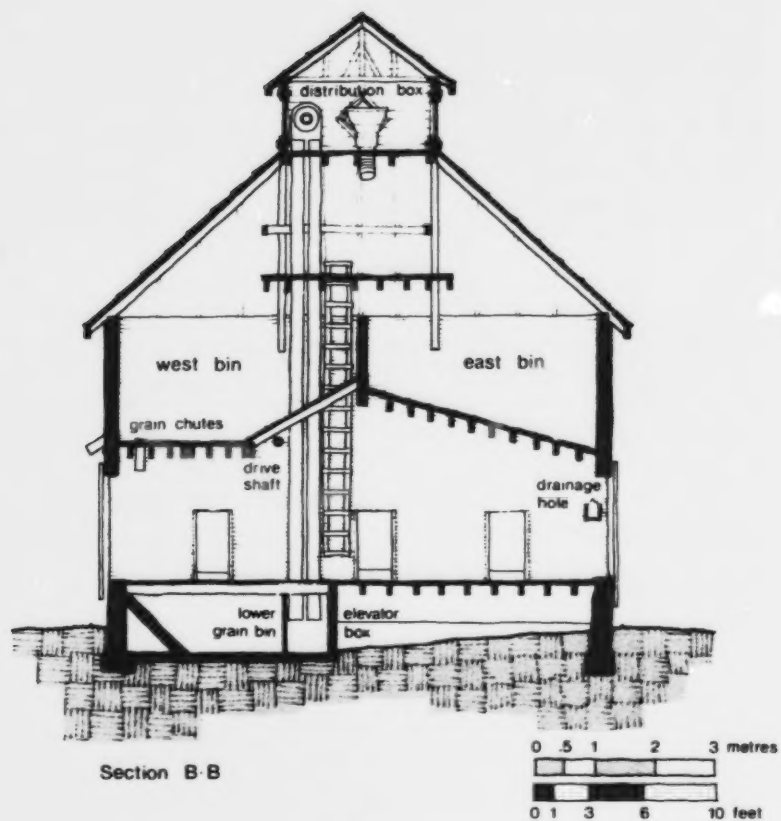


PLATE 91. McCallum elevator: section. The capacity of this elevator was 68,280 litres (7850 bushels).





PLATE 92. Forsyth shed, SE 3-12-19W, 1900. A standard framing procedure was used for this commonplace threshing machine shed.



PLATE 93. Nelles shed, SW 9-11-19W, ca. 1900. This long shed on the old Sandison property was used to store tillage implements.

A buggy shed and stable, built on the Sandison farm after Sandison's departure was a showpiece (Plate 94). A large door once slid along the decorative track that stretches across the front. The twin dormer windows admitted light to the loft, while the louvred cupola permitted stale air to escape. The intricate construction and the obvious attempt to give a utilitarian structure some architectural distinction make this structure one of the more interesting in the planning district. For this reason the framing system of the building has been used for the cover illustration of this report.

#### Chicken Coops

Chicken coops were a common feature on many farms in Elton-Cornwall's, although only a few exist today. A characteristic of these structures, which clearly defined their function was the large window openings in the south wall. This feature provided a bright environment



PLATE 94. Devine buggy shed, SW 9-11-19W, ca. 1900. Buggies were parked in the left side while the teams or horses were housed on the right side.

that was necessary for good egg production. A log coop at NW 4-9-17W was an early example that was combined with a stable (Plate 95). A smaller, later chicken coop at NW 26-12-19W had, like its neighbour, a number of windows in the south wall (Plate 96).

#### Root Cellars and Necessaries

Like chicken coops, root cellars were a frequent sight in Elton-Cornwallis. Perishable food for human and animal consumption was usually stored in these cellars. Constructed partially underground, root cellars took advantage of the coolness of their surroundings. If not located under the ramp of a barn or in the basement of a house, a small structure was usually built close to the house. Frequently the root cellar was constructed and painted to mimic the house. An unusually well-built root cellar was located at NW 29-10-19W (Plate 97). Large fieldstone walls, constructed in an excavation in

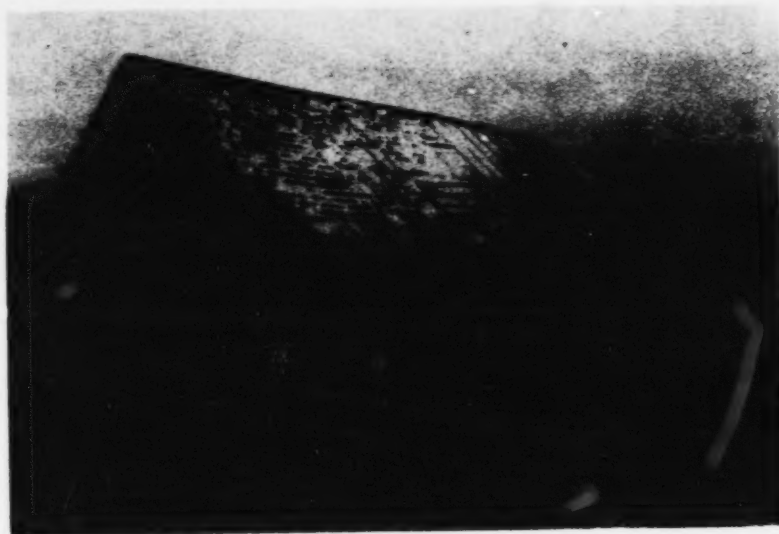


PLATE 95. Chicken coop, NW 4-9-17W.



PLATE 96. Chicken coop, NW 26-12-19W, ca. 1900.



PLATE 97. Hunter root cellar, NE 29-10-19W, ca. 1905.

the hillock ensured a cool interior. The pyramid roof was inexplicably accented with a domestic feature; a dormer window.

Outhouses, or necessities as they were more delicately called, were required on all farms of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The little buildings were simply constructed with a 40 x 80 (2" x 4") frame sheathed with drop siding and covered with a medium-pitched roof. A door in the gable end could be decorated, as could window openings above the door or on the side. One outhouse at NE 34-11-19W was decorated with artificial roses attached to a circular mirror hung on the door (Plate 98).

C. Public and Commercial Structures

While farm structures comprise the vast majority of buildings in the planning district, there were various community-oriented structures that should be considered. During the first forty years of settlement, rural areas sustained a number of small, local services. Before 1920, when quick transportation to Brandon became possible,



PLATE 98. Outhouse, NE 34-11-19W.

the isolated nature of rural life ensured that a number of local churches, schools, stores, and a few other community facilities, were an integral part of that lifestyle.

Although these community buildings were continually used during the years before the First World War, many have since disappeared or fallen into disrepair. As farming operations became more mechanized and urban job opportunities attracted inhabitants, many rural facilities lost their population base. With smaller congregations some churches and their community halls were closed. Many of these former churches have been demolished and, while their numbers are dwindling, some of the remaining churches do support congregations. Community halls have suffered a similar fate. Of the two community halls in the planning district, only one is used for that purpose today. The other is a granary. School districts were also forced to close schools and, during the 1950s and 1960s, as provincial school consolidation was enforced, all the old rural schools were vacated. While some of these school buildings were subsequently used as community halls, most are now empty. A handful of early stores still provide commercial services to rural areas, but the majority of them have long since vanished.

#### Churches

Church construction in the planning district was always a priority with early settlers, the majority of whom were Presbyterians or Methodists. Initially they worshipped in a home or school but when conditions allowed they petitioned for approval to build a church, raised funds and hired contractors. Considerable volunteer labour went into the construction of most of these churches.

In 1930, there were more than 15 churches in the planning district. Only seven remain. Two common elements repeated in most of these existing churches are the tower and pointed or Gothic window. These were only two architectural features of the Gothic Revival style which, understandably, was much used for church designs. In modest churches, the architectural elements were often simplified, but the pointed window and tower usually remained to clearly identify the buildings as churches. Even as late as 1929, the builders of the



Forrest United Church chose to suggest pointed windows in a more angular form which was easier to construct (Plate 99).

Pointed windows were only one element of Gothic Revival churches. In the planning district a number also followed the traditional form common to a type of simple parish church in Great Britain. In these, the rectangular body of the church was topped with a steeply pitched roof and fronted with a tall projecting tower with the entrance at the base and the bell in the upper stage. A fine example is the Brandon Hills United Church (Plate 100). This church, built in 1896, is one of only two architecturally designed buildings in the planning district (the other was John Sandison's house, page 141). Brandon architect Walter Shillinglaw modelled the church after one in Durham, Nova Scotia where many of the congregation had originally worshipped. Shillinglaw reserved most of the external decoration for the upper stages of the tower.

Although similar in plan to the Brandon Hills Church, St. George's is unique as the planning district's only Anglican and only brick church (Plate 101). Built in 1901, the building materials, broach spire, dormer windows, and radiating brickwork forming the pointed windows, all indicate the care with which the building was constructed.

The Douglas United Church (originally Methodist) varies from this basic form only in the lack of a tower (Plate 102). Instead, the building is fronted with an entrance porch and originally had a bell cot on the roof to house a bell. Also removed are two of the four pinnacles which projected at the four corners of the building.

Two distinctive churches which follow a different form are the former Methodist churches in Justice and Chater (Plates 103 and 104). Both buildings are L-shaped with a tower in the crook of the L. The 1900 Chater Church doubtlessly served as the model for the Justice Church which was built ten years later. Apparently some of the district's demolished churches were similar to these, a type of design much favoured by the Methodists.



PLATE 99. Forrest United Church, Forrest, 1929. The Forrest Church was built with materials salvaged from the former Wesley Methodist and Humesville Presbyterian Churches.



PLATE 100. Brandon Hills United Church, NE 17-9-18W, 1896. Originally Presbyterian, the church became United with the union of Methodist and Presbyterian in 1925.



PLATE 101. St. George's Anglican Church, NW 21-12-19W, 1901. The buff coloured brick was purchased from the brickyard in nearby Rapid City.



PLATE 102. Douglas United Church, Douglas, 1893. This building is the oldest surviving church in the planning district.



PLATE 103. Justice United Church, Justice, 1910.



PLATE 104. Chater United Church, Chater, 1900.

### Community Halls

A number of community halls were built in the villages of Elton Municipality. In Forrest, a hall was built in 1897 to provide space for the Literary and Debating Society, local political meetings and social events. The defunct community of Madford also had a community hall before the village disbanded in 1911 and the villages of Chater, Justice and Douglas all had community centres at one time. There were also a few halls built in the country to provide space for strictly rural use.

Almost all of these buildings were basic hall plans with few interior obstructions. The entrance faces of these halls, however, were frequently embellished with some distinctive features. The boom town facade was a favourite device which concealed the main structure, and made the building both more eye catching and larger in appearance.

The old Moore Park Orange Hall is a good example of a small community hall (Plate 105). It was built before 1885 and served local rural functions for a number of years before it was moved to Justice in 1954. The building also served as an Orange Hall in Justice for several years until it was moved to its present location. The simple gabled hall was concealed from the front by a boom town facade that produced an interesting public face, but actually had no structural relationship to the hall behind it.

### Schools

The provision of education to their children was just as important to the pioneer settlers as religious ministry. Before 1885 classes in many areas of the planning district were held in farm houses or empty granaries. By 1885, when many local school boards were formed, one-room school buildings were constructed in most areas. Because the rural districts were then sparsely settled, the schools were spaced about five or six miles apart so children would not have to travel far for classes.

Early school construction in the planning district was, as it was throughout the province, usually quite modest. A wood framed building with a small vestibule and a simple gable roof characterized most one-room school construction in Elton-Cornwallis (Plate 106).

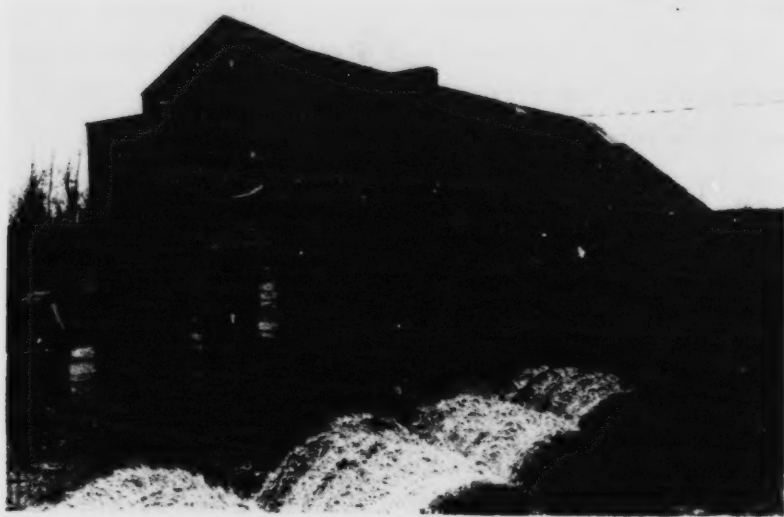


PLATE 105. Former Moore Park Orange Hall, SE 10-12-18W, ca. 1885. This building is now used as a granary.



PLATE 106. Former Little Souris School, SE 15-9-19W, 1884. The building is probably the oldest schoolhouse remaining in the planning district.

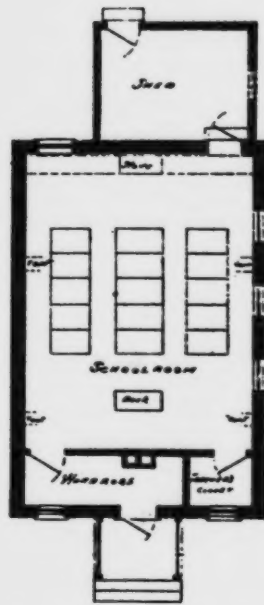


Some buildings were made slightly more elaborate with details on windows and doors (Plate 107).

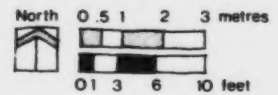
In 1903 specific school plans were submitted to the Manitoba Government by Samuel Hooper (Plate 108). These economical schemes incorporated standard construction procedures and some technical innovations. One remaining school in the planning district reflects Hooper's School Design No. 1 (Plate 109). Even if the specific designs were not always accepted by local school boards, the requirements for foundations, porch construction, fenestration and ventilation, encouraged by the province were usually accepted. At the same time that the physical environment of one-room schools was being improved, the need for even larger schools was recognized. In 1908 and 1912 two-room schools at Douglas, now gone, and Justice were built to accommodate the enlarged student population in Elton. These two-room schools were better constructed than earlier one-room designs. The Justice Consolidated School was an especially ambitious building (Plate 110).



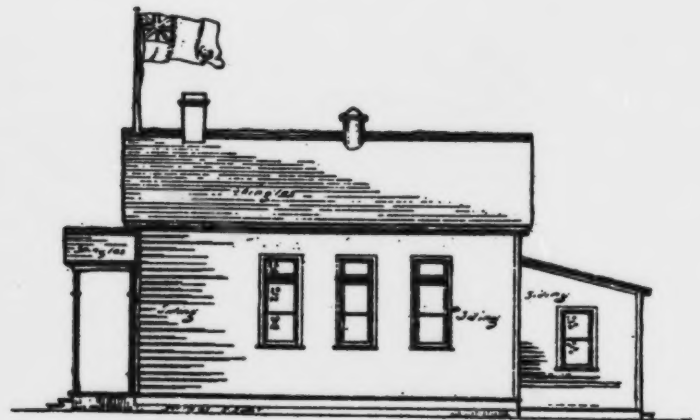
PLATE 107. Former Gourlay School, NW 22-12-18W, 1892. The high pitched roofs and segment-arched window heads are suggestive of a Gothic influence.



Ground Floor Plan



South Elevation



East Elevation

PLATE 108. School Design No. 1, 1903. While Samuel Hooper drew up three possible school designs, the simplest, No. 1, was the most popular choice in rural Manitoba.



PLATE 109. Former Matheson School, NE 35-11-17W, 1905. While the window patterns on the right side do not conform to Samuel Hooper's Standard Plan for a Frame School No. 1, this structure was based on the Winnipeg architect's design.



PLATE 110. Former Justice Consolidated School, Justice, 1912. This brick veneered building featured a full basement that was used as a teacherage.

With fluctuating school enrolments the consolidation of local school districts had been a regular occurrence since 1900. One larger school was occupied by the local student population, while the remaining small schools in the affected area were closed. During the 1950s provincial consolidation rationalized many districts and by 1967 the whole province had been rearranged into 48 large school divisions. In Elton-Cornwallis this development resulted in the disbanding of all the rural school districts and the redistribution of students to newer facilities in Forrest or Douglas or to the high schools in Brandon. The old school houses in the countryside were left vacant or were sold.

### Stores

Besides schools and churches, small local stores often served as a nucleus for rural community development. General stores were built where a concentration of settlers had located. The frequent incorporation of a post office in the store occasionally encouraged the growth of tiny villages around them. This was the case with both the villages of Grand Valley and Madford.

The boom town front that characterized community halls was also a frequent feature of early twentieth century stores. A store in Douglas, now used as a garage, is an example of this kind of structure (Plate 111). Originally a meat market, this simple building was given a more imposing appearance by the tall, square entrance facade. This feature also provided room for the store's name, which is faintly visible above the doors.

### Railroad Buildings

The numerous railroad companies that built lines criss-crossing the area around Brandon were responsible for the construction of a variety of buildings. Numerous loading platforms, storage sheds and some water towers dotted the prairie alongside the rail lines. Elaborate stations and depots also provided a distinctive character to the rural areas they served. However most of the stations in the planning district have been dismantled or moved, and only two section houses and one depot still stand.



PLATE 111. Small false-fronted stores, like this old meat market in Douglas, were an essential element in early rural community life.

Railway section houses built to prescribed plans and specifications ensured the identical appearance of nearly all these simple utilitarian buildings (Plate 112). Station houses were, of course, more elaborate than the humble section shacks. The station house was frequently the most distinctive building in the villages and towns of western Manitoba. Designed, like the section houses, according to typical plans, they were nevertheless, a dominant element in a village street. In the district, station houses were built in Douglas and Chater in 1882 and there was a station in Forrest by 1895; none of these buildings exist today. The only station house remaining, Brandon North, is now vacant and was never located in a village (Plate 113). It served as the C.N.R. depot from the early 1930s until it was closed recently. This station was not actually based on a standard C.N.R. design. An old building was simply relocated on the present site to serve as a waiting room.

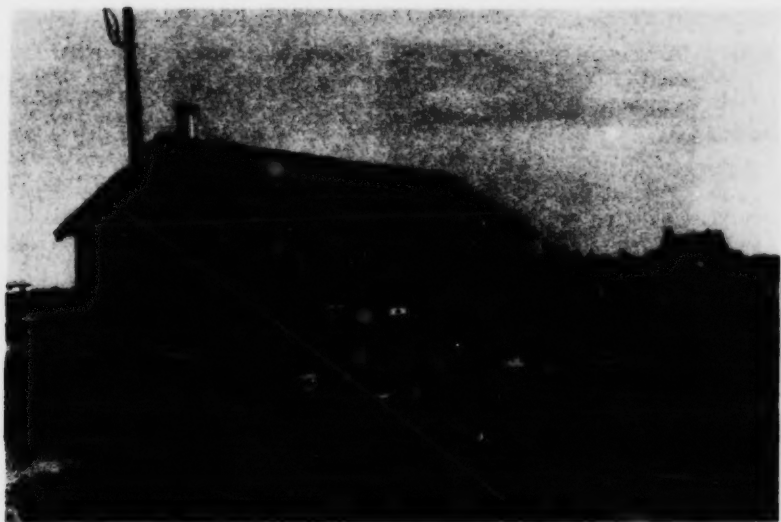


PLATE 112. C.N.R. section house, Forrest, ca. 1910. Small section houses like this one were used as bunkhouses by railway repair crews.



PLATE 113. Brandon North Station, NE 7-12-18W. An attendant's quarters, in the middle, and two baggage rooms, to the right, were later additions to the main building, on the left.



#### IV. SELECTED INVENTORY

The table below shows the total number and types of heritage structures identified during the survey and breaks the general building types into more detailed categories. Of the 312 buildings photographed 148 were selected as being particularly interesting. These exceptional structures are illustrated and described in detail in the following pages.

##### Farm Houses

|                                           |          |
|-------------------------------------------|----------|
| 1 storey frame houses                     | 4        |
| 1½ storey frame houses                    | 53       |
| 1½ storey frame houses with brick veneer  | 7        |
| 1½ storey concrete houses                 | 2        |
| 2 storey frame houses                     | 4        |
| 2 storey frame houses with brick veneer   | 2        |
| 2 storey frame houses with stucco veneer  | 1        |
| 2½ storey frame houses                    | 11       |
| 2½ storey frame houses with brick veneer  | 24       |
| 2½ storey stone houses                    | 2        |
| 2½ storey frame houses with stucco veneer | 4        |
| 2½ storey concrete houses                 | <u>1</u> |
|                                           | 120      |

##### Barns

|                                     |           |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| log barns                           | 3         |
| early frame barns                   | 18        |
| early southern Ontario style barns  | 11        |
| large southern Ontario style barns  | 17        |
| early twentieth century frame barns | 23        |
| plank framed barns                  | <u>16</u> |
|                                     | 88        |

##### Farm Outbuildings

|                 |          |
|-----------------|----------|
| granaries       | 26       |
| elevators       | 4        |
| equipment sheds | 33       |
| chicken coops   | 7        |
| root cellars    | 2        |
| outhouses       | <u>4</u> |
|                 | 76       |

##### Public Buildings

|                   |          |
|-------------------|----------|
| churches          | 5        |
| schools           | 9        |
| railway buildings | 8        |
| stores            | 4        |
| community centres | <u>2</u> |
|                   | 28       |

1)  
 LOCATION  
     SE 28-11-17W  
     SE Elton  
 PRESENT USE  
     Abandoned  
 PRESENT OWNER  
     James McKeand  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
     John Ryder  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
     ca. 1885



This house illustrates the transplantation of house designs by early settlers. The central hall plan, symmetrical front and Gothic or pointed gable window were all familiar features to homesteaders from southern Ontario. At the same time, this frame example is built of less costly materials and is more simply detailed than some of its eastern counterparts. Few such early examples remain in the planning district.

2)  
 LOCATION  
     NW 19-12-18W  
     N Central Elton  
 PRESENT USE  
     Abandoned  
 PRESENT OWNER  
     Lloyd Franklin  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
     Mary Buchart  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
     ca. 1893



The design of this residence comes from the same architectural heritage as 1), although this example is made more elaborate through the use of sophisticated detailing. Some interesting gingerbread details decorate the central gable, while a verandah was once present. Decorated window mouldings and a multi-panelled door with coloured glass inserts complemented the effect. The ornamentation was not applied to the side elevations of this house. In general, expensive ornamentation was used only on the public, south, face of rural houses in western Canada. The house has deteriorated steadily since it was abandoned.

3)

LOCATION

SW 16-11-17W

SE Elton

PRESENT USE

Occupied

PRESENT OWNER

Gordon Black

ORIGINAL OWNER

D.J. Black

CONSTRUCTION DATE

Unknown



This 1½ storey house has undergone several alterations. At the turn of the century a tiny side porch and gallery as well as a rear, projecting wing were constructed. In the 1940s the frame house was covered with insulbrick siding and the front verandah was removed. The central gable over the door incorporates the typical pointed window seen on many centrally planned rectangular houses.

4)

LOCATION

NE 10-9-18W

S Central

Cornwallis

PRESENT USE

Vacant

PRESENT OWNER

G.K. McPherson

ORIGINAL OWNER

Hugh McPherson

CONSTRUCTION DATE

1881-1883



This house once served as a stopping house for both incoming settlers and for local farmers who stayed overnight during their trips to the Brandon markets. The original southern section on the right was enlarged, substantially, with a long wing on the back. The pedimented window caps, arched windows, peaked gables and decorative trim comprise the variety of architectural elements used to animate this design. The house is currently vacant and shows some signs of neglect.

5)  
 LOCATION  
     SE 30-12-19W  
     NW Elton  
 PRESENT USE  
     Storage  
 PRESENT OWNER  
     Arnold Cundy  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
     Mr. Hicks  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
     1892



The centrally planned rectangular house has a datestone situated in the central gable peak. It is probable that the builder of this house knew only the rudiments of fieldstone construction. The stones have been roughly cut and in numerous places small stones were used in the construction.

6)  
 LOCATION  
     NE 21-9-18W  
     S Central  
     Cornwallis  
 PRESENT USE  
     Occupied Residence  
 PRESENT OWNER  
     B. Wakefield  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
     Arthur Gerry  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
     ca. 1890



This house was used from 1907 to 1915 as the Brandon Hills Post Office. In comparison to the only other fieldstone house in the Brandon Hills, 5), this structure has more refined details and stonework. The blocks were more carefully cut and faced and a bargeboard graces the steep central gable.

7)

LOCATION

SE 25-9-19W  
SW Cornwallis

PRESENT USE

Occupied

PRESENT OWNER

William Baker

ORIGINAL OWNER

Unknown

CONSTRUCTION DATE

ca. 1895



This building is unusual in a number of respects. Unlike other houses that incorporated a central gable above the symmetrical long side, this example has a side hall plan. The proximity of the shed and house entrances abetted the construction of a small verandah to shelter both. The typical rough shed addition was, in this case, not only built at the same time as the house, but was also constructed of brick. The house has been little-altered since its construction although the roof was reshingled in the 1930s.

8)

LOCATION

NW 36-10-18W  
N Central  
Cornwallis

PRESENT USE

Occupied

PRESENT OWNER

G. Abey

ORIGINAL OWNER

J. Abey

CONSTRUCTION DATE

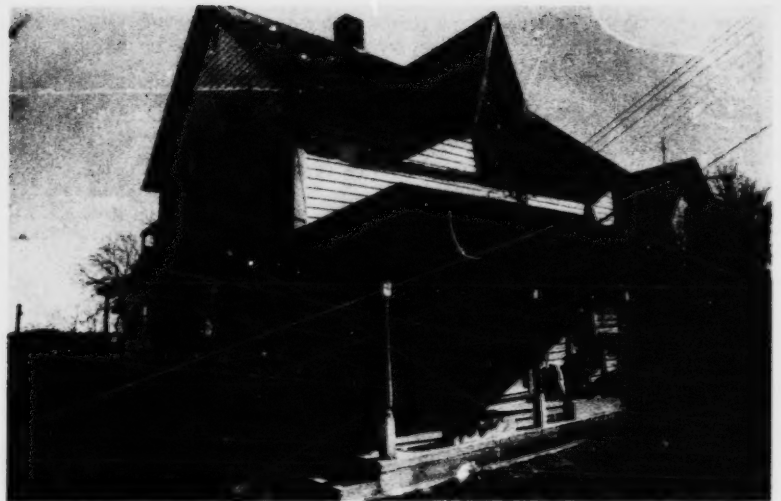
1897



This house has more ambitious brickwork than the previous example, 7). Here, brick veneer was used for the main walls, with lighter sand brick for the quoins and window trim work. The disproportionately small porch is actually the remnant of a large verandah that extended across the south central gable wall. Although the main entrance is currently in the gable end, it was at one time located in the centre of the south wall.



9)  
 LOCATION  
     Douglas  
 PRESENT USE  
     Occupied  
 PRESENT OWNER  
     J.R. Hooke  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
     Unknown  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
     ca. 1890



This house probably dates from the early to mid-1890s. The verandah has turned posts and ornamented brackets. It is also possible that gingerbread was once present on the central gable above this.

10)  
 LOCATION  
     Douglas  
 PRESENT USE  
     Occupied  
 PRESENT OWNER  
     Glen Hooke  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
     Unknown  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
     1883



This house was built somewhat earlier than its neighbour 9). While transformed by the L-shaped plan this house retains the small central gable, arched window and triangular window caps that characterized the centrally planned rectangular style. A bay window was a feature popular in the nineteenth century.



11)

LOCATION

NW 3-12-19W

NW Elton

PRESENT USE

Vacant

PRESENT OWNER

Thomas L. Curtis

ORIGINAL OWNER

A.W. Curtis

CONSTRUCTION DATE

ca. 1905



This type of plain and inexpensive house was commonly built throughout the planning district around 1900. The straightforward design and construction that characterized such houses met the spatial and economic needs of many farming families. Little decoration was applied to these houses; the only ornamental feature on this house appears in the ground floor window transom. The house has been only slightly altered (one of the second storey windows has been replaced) and is still in good condition.

12)

LOCATION

SW 25-11-19W

SW Elton

PRESENT USE

Vacant

PRESENT OWNER

J.R. Moffat

ORIGINAL OWNER

David Anderson

CONSTRUCTION DATE

1907



A plain verandah makes this house appear less severe. The building is still in good structural condition.

13)  
 LOCATION  
     SE 19-9-19W  
     SW Cornwallis  
 PRESENT USE  
     Storage  
 PRESENT OWNER  
     Norman Sutherland  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
     R.F. Dodd  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
     ca. 1895



This small residence has an unusually high ceiling height on the ground floor which gives this house its lean appearance. The building exhibits the basic side hall planned rectangular form with a side-projecting summer kitchen.

14)  
 LOCATION  
     NE 36-11-18W  
     S Central Elton  
 PRESENT USE  
     Abandoned  
 PRESENT OWNER  
     Wood Brothers  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
     John Wood  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
     ca. 1900



This structure is another example of the few old side hall houses in the planning district. The verandah, cedar shingles and side shanty were additions made several years after the initial construction to adorn the otherwise plain appearance of the house. The building is now abandoned and in a deteriorating state.

15)  
 LOCATION  
 NE 34-11-19W  
 SW Elton  
 PRESENT USE  
 Occupied  
 PRESENT OWNER  
 S. Murray  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
 J. Graham  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
 ca. 1910



This dwelling once had a bay window where the picture window is presently located. The simple structure is also animated by a dormer window on the right side.

16)  
 LOCATION  
 Forrest  
 PRESENT FUNCTION  
 Occupied  
 PRESENT OWNER  
 H. Birkhan  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
 Unknown  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
 ca. 1920



The original east section of this house, with its bay window and bargeboard decorations, was substantially enlarged with a west extension to create an L-shaped plan.

17)  
 LOCATION  
     Forrest  
 PRESENT USE  
     Occupied  
 PRESENT OWNER  
     Unknown  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
     Mr. Tullock  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
     ca. 1900



This turn of the century brick veneer house is a more substantial version of the typical side hall rectangular dwelling. Brick veneer was used as a cladding material to improve both the appearance and the fire-resistance of wood frame structures. The decorative features of this house include turned woodwork in the gable and coloured glass in the front ground floor window. There was also a small gable roof that once sheltered the main entrance.

18)  
 LOCATION  
     SW 18-12-18W  
     N Central Elton  
 PRESENT USE  
     Occupied  
 PRESENT OWNER  
     Blaine Hall  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
     Neil Hutchinson  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
     1898



The Hutchinson house is another example of the simple side hall plan residence sheathed with brick veneer. This dwelling probably once had a verandah on two sides of the house, connecting both the front and rear entrances. The rear shed appears to have been part of the original construction. The Gothic style gingerbread found in the gable provides the sole decorative feature in the design. There are some cracks in the exterior wall, but the building is still in fairly good condition.

19)

LOCATION

SW 5-10-19W

NW Cornwallis

PRESENT USE

Occupied

PRESENT OWNER

James Brown

ORIGINAL OWNER

Mr. Lowes

CONSTRUCTION DATE

1895



Despite some window modifications this brick-veneered residence is an intact turn of the century design. The two different wall heights create separate roofs. The southern section (on the right) has a small bay window and bargeboards on the dormer gable. This building is an interesting variation to the simple side hall style prevalent in Elton-Cornwallis.

20)

LOCATION

SE 7-10-19W

NW Cornwallis

PRESENT USE

Occupied

PRESENT OWNER

Douglas Graham

ORIGINAL OWNER

Mr. Robinson

CONSTRUCTION DATE

Unknown



This farm home is a good example of the variations that altered the typical side hall style residence. A verandah wraps around two sides of the house serving both entrances. The fenestration pattern above the verandah includes paired second floor windows and a small round-arched window in the attic. A stairway window, located just in front of the enclosed porch, draws its light from an opening cut in the porch roof. This suggests that the porch was either a later addition or that the design was not carefully planned.



21)  
 LOCATION  
   NE 18-9-19W  
   SW Cornwallis  
 PRESENT USE  
   Storage  
 PRESENT OWNER  
   Ken Beever  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
   William Shields  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
   1910-1912



The Shields house is another of the more elaborate side hall planned houses built in Elton-Cornwallis. Personal touches add a distinction to the house. A verandah on two sides is an addition used to provide the building with a more elegant appearance. This intent is reiterated with the small gable cut into the side roof.

22)  
 LOCATION  
   SE 18-12-17W  
   NE Elton  
 PRESENT USE  
   Occupied  
 PRESENT OWNER  
   Muriel Outhwaite  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
   James Thompson  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
   1904



Mr. Thompson's residence, though larger than 21) is of a similar nature. This building also illustrates the personal detail application that animated the simplicity of the underlying planning. The heavy gable and verandah decoration are the most notable features. While the verandah is highly decorative, with its turned capitals and ball spindles, it is also functional; it provides a covered access to the summer kitchen.



23)

LOCATION

SE 6-12-17W

NE Elton

PRESENT USE

Vacant

PRESENT OWNER

W.A. Miller

ORIGINAL OWNER

Mr. Powell

CONSTRUCTION DATE

Unknown



This two storey building was probably built without the 1½ storey wing. The house once featured a verandah across the front and along the entrance side. The spalling of the concrete and thickness of the wall indicates that this was a brick veneer dwelling that was bereft of any notable ornamentation in a more utilitarian period.

24)

LOCATION

NE 25-11-18W

S Central Elton

PRESENT USE

Abandoned

PRESENT OWNER

G. Wood

ORIGINAL OWNER

Joseph Hoey

CONSTRUCTION DATE

ca. 1890



This is the only house remaining in the planning district that was roughly constructed of fieldstone and covered on the outside with plaster. The building has obviously been abandoned for a number of years. The chimney was removed and the plaster has developed large cracks.

25)  
 LOCATION  
     SE 15-11-17W  
     SE Elton  
 PRESENT USE  
     Occupied  
 PRESENT OWNER  
     Clayton Farley  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
     Ernest Ardron  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
     1921



The L-shaped residence was constructed with wood salvaged from the old Camp Shilo theatre. It once bore a decorative two-sided verandah with a gallery or balcony above. The gables, decorated with alternating fish scale shingles, the bay window and coloured outline glass provide interesting detail work. Sometime in the 1940s the verandah and balcony were removed.

26)  
 LOCATION  
     SW 22-11-17W  
     SE Elton  
 PRESENT USE  
     Abandoned  
 PRESENT OWNER  
     James McKeand  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
     David McKeand  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
     1905



The Dutch Colonial or gambrel-roofed house began to enjoy a popularity in Manitoba around 1905. The gambrel roof, which is cross-gabled, gave the second storey a number of usable rooms. Now abandoned the building is slowly deteriorating.

27)

LOCATION

SE 31-11-18W

S Central Elton

PRESENT USE

Occupied

PRESENT OWNER

W.G. Burton

ORIGINAL OWNER

George Burton

CONSTRUCTION DATE

1909



A house of this size executed in brick was often the mark of a well-to-do farmer. There were few decorative features that were incorporated in this straightforward design although a two storey verandah was once located at the front of the structure. The roof and railing marks are still plainly visible. A small side porch that remains indicates the original nature of the porch.

28)

LOCATION

SE 29-11-18W

S Central Elton

PRESENT USE

Occupied

PRESENT OWNER

Claude Oldcorn

ORIGINAL OWNER

J. Grant

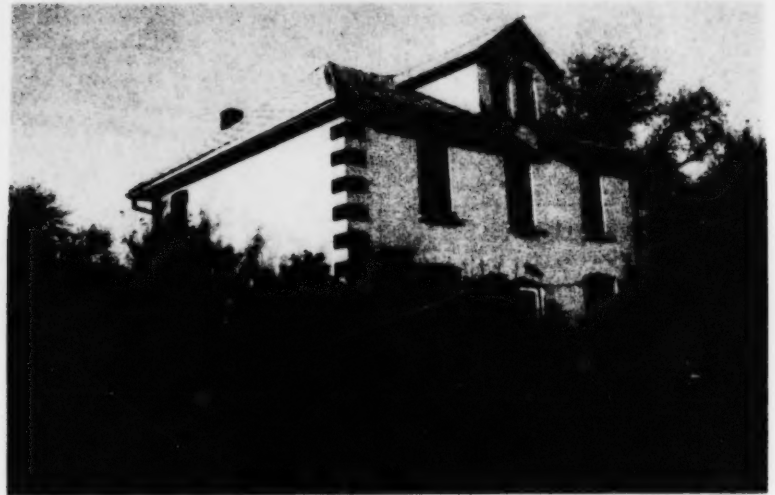
CONSTRUCTION DATE

1907



This house is similar in nature to 27). It relies on the same architectural massing, window and door locations and hip roof of the Burton residence. The front gable, however, is larger and more elaborate with its fish-scale shingles and bargeboards than the modest hip-roofed dormer of 27).

29)  
 LOCATION  
     SW 20-12-19W  
     NW Elton  
 PRESENT USE  
     Occupied  
 PRESENT OWNER  
     G. Blythe  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
     Harold Kemp  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
     1907



The Kemp house is another variation upon the 2½ storey square planned house type. It is, however, rectangular in shape with a low hip roof and a gable dormer at the front. The use of quoins, which were decorative corner elements, were stylish on houses in the 1870s and 1880s. On this 1907 structure they appear somewhat old-fashioned, but are handsome details nonetheless. The quoins, which in this case were painted, are only used at the front, indicating that the owner was interested in an elaborate show at the chief facade only.

30)  
 LOCATION  
     SW 5-12-18W  
     N Central Elton  
 PRESENT USE  
     Occupied  
 PRESENT OWNER  
     C. McPhail  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
     William McPhail  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
     1909



The most notable feature of this large square planned house is the use of buff brick in a zig-zag pattern at the corners that creates stylized quoins. The same material is used for decoration about the windows and doors. Its use as trim denotes its status as a slightly more expensive brick than the sand variety composing the rest of the house. A verandah was once wrapped around two sides of this house, serving both entrances. The present balcony was once larger, stretching from window to window at the second storey.

31)

LOCATION

SW 21-11-18W

S Central Elton

PRESENT USE

Occupied

PRESENT OWNER

Alex McPhail

ORIGINAL OWNER

Mr. McPhail

CONSTRUCTION DATE

ca. 1910



There is little to distinguish the main body of this building from 27) through 30). It is the high hip roof and the other roof elements that are illustrative of the changes in formal elements that lent an individuality to these large residences. The use of a large gable provided room and light to the attic storey. A balcony probably once graced the top of a wraparound verandah.

32)

LOCATION

NW 17-12-17W

NE Elton

PRESENT USE

Occupied

PRESENT OWNER

Ben Neighbour

ORIGINAL OWNER

Norman Thompson

CONSTRUCTION DATE

1913 or 1914



What Norman Thompson did not spend on building a brick house, he spent upon the handsome balcony and verandah that decorates the residence. Tuscan columns support the verandah and lend a formal air to the place. Above, however, carved newel posts and balusters provide a playful, less formal touch. In the gable there are a pair of arched windows.



33)  
 LOCATION  
     SW 22-11-17W  
     SE Elton  
 PRESENT USE  
     Abandoned  
 PRESENT OWNER  
     James McKeand  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
     Robert McKeand  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
     1900



The Eastlake style trim and semi-circular window of the dormer are clearly identifiable details on this, the only large, formed concrete house in the planning district. The window transoms with their coloured glass and the crestings on the porch provide relief to the severity of the unpainted concrete wall. The truncated hip roof of this structure probably once bore a railing of wooden or wrought iron cresting. The house has been abandoned for a number of years.

34)  
 LOCATION  
     SE 13-11-18W  
     S Central Elton  
 PRESENT USE  
     Occupied  
 PRESENT OWNER  
     D. Martin  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
     Thomas Nevin  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
     ca. 1905



The concrete blocks used for this square planned house date the building at 1904-06. This was an era when the concrete block was first made popular as a construction medium. Itinerant builders with block-making machines that produced rock-face, vermiculated and plain blocks by the dozen were in demand throughout Manitoba before the First World War. The first two varieties are visible in this building.



35)

LOCATION

NE 29-10-19W

NW Cornwallis

PRESENT USE

Occupied

PRESENT OWNER

Glen Hunter

ORIGINAL OWNER

A.E. Philp

CONSTRUCTION DATE

ca. 1900



The construction of this odd house is a mystery. The bricks used for the second storey may have been used when the builders ran out of the local fieldstone used for the ground floor or the roof may have been raised at a later date to build the second storey. The front porch and rear section were likely added at the same time. The building is fairly well preserved.

36)

LOCATION

NW 29-10-19W

NW Cornwallis

PRESENT USE

Occupied

PRESENT OWNER

Alfred Durnin

ORIGINAL OWNER

John Durnin

CONSTRUCTION DATE

1897-1900



This residence provides a rare example in the planning district of a stone house constructed by a master builder. All the stones are cut and regularly faced. The walls consist of a double layer of stone each 300 mm (12") thick. An interesting feature inside this house is an artesian well that provides a good source of drinking water. The interior of the house, while retaining its original plan, has been renovated. The ceilings have been lowered and most wood detailing has been removed.

37)

LOCATION

SW 16-9-18W

S Central

Cornwallis

PRESENT USE

Abandoned

PRESENT OWNER

B. Roddick

ORIGINAL OWNER

T.M. Roddick

CONSTRUCTION DATE

Unknown



Impressively detailed, with its three-sided verandah, carved posts and wrought iron roof cresting, this residence is a frame version of the large brick houses that were being built throughout the planning district at the same time. The house has unfortunately been abandoned for a number of years and the resultant deterioration is obvious.

38)

LOCATION

SE 11-12-18W

N. Central Elton

PRESENT USE

Abandoned

PRESENT OWNER

W. Miller

ORIGINAL OWNER

Thomas Miller

CONSTRUCTION DATE

1913



The square verandah posts indicate the construction date of this stately square planned residence. The short posts rested upon a base which incorporated the typical railings and ballusters of earlier houses into one solid form. Because of improper supports these verandahs often developed structural problems, sagged and were removed. This one is a rare survivor. Other notable features on this house include a pediment with a shell motif over the entrance and a gable with a round-arched window in the attic. The wood frame structure is still intact but whole sections of the brick veneer have collapsed.

39)

LOCATION

NE 14-11-18W  
S Central Elton

PRESENT USE

Vacant

PRESENT OWNER

R. Green

ORIGINAL OWNER

J. Crawford

CONSTRUCTION DATE

Unknown



This large house probably had an addition which doubled its size early in its history. Though a house of the 1905 period, it retains the triangular window caps of an earlier era. They are used in this instance with the two storey verandah, that has an odd recess in the right side. The effect is classical. The triangular caps assume the role of pediments and the columns become pillars. The house is currently vacant.

40)

LOCATION

NW 32-12-19W  
NW Elton

PRESENT USE

Occupied

PRESENT OWNER

L.W. Marriot

ORIGINAL OWNER

Samuel Doherty

CONSTRUCTION DATE

1907



This 2½ storey structure is a moderately-sized square planned brick veneer house. The extended quoins on the south facade are constructed of brick, unlike the painted quoins of other houses. The corners on this residence provide a sense of firmness to the public face while a simply-detailed verandah adds other decorative elements in the design.

41)  
 LOCATION  
     SE 30-12-19W  
     NW Elton  
 PRESENT USE  
     Occupied  
 PRESENT OWNER  
     Arnold Cundy  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
     Mr. Hicks  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
     Unknown



This large 2½ storey house sports a hipped-gable roof, an unusual feature in the planning district. The large brick porch columns and the dark roof elements provide this well-preserved house with a sense of Edwardian solidity.

42)  
 LOCATION  
     SW 34-11-18W  
     S Central Elton  
 PRESENT USE  
     Occupied  
 PRESENT OWNER  
     G. Croy  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
     George Young  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
     ca. 1905



This substantial residence was probably built around 1905 to house a large family. The window placement and the hipped gable roof and eave returns are unusual features that distinguish this house from the majority of large houses built after 1900.

43)

LOCATION

NW 13-9-19W

SW Cornwallis

PRESENT USE

Abandoned

PRESENT OWNER

Peter Evans

ORIGINAL OWNER

Mr. Evans

CONSTRUCTION DATE

ca. 1900



A variety of modified Gothic style elements have been incorporated in this residence. The steep central gable with pointed window motif is altered here, producing two small gables with round arched windows on the second floor. The style of decoration on the verandah, with the scrolled work between the brackets, is quite unusual and distinctive. The projecting east wing was probably a later addition.

44)

LOCATION

SE 23-11-18W

S Central Elton

PRESENT USE

Occupied

PRESENT OWNER

R. Green

ORIGINAL OWNER

W.J. Nelson

CONSTRUCTION DATE

ca. 1910



A large L-shaped frame house, this handsome building incorporates a commodious wraparound verandah and a balcony. This design illustrates the problems encountered by the new balcony columns. The central support is far out of plumb because its base has given way. Below, the sturdy one-piece Tuscan pillars remain in good condition. The fish-scale detailing on the dormers and balcony and the details on the verandah cornice provide a pleasant aspect to this house.



45)  
 LOCATION  
   NE 34-11-17W  
   SE Elton  
 PRESENT USE  
   Occupied  
 PRESENT OWNER  
   James McKeand  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
   P. Douglas  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
   ca. 1905



The distinguishing features of this L-shaped house are the handsome palladian windows in the gable ends. At one time this house had a more elaborate verandah and balcony which have since been replaced. On the back of this house Mr. Douglas ran out of red brick and a section of the house was veneered with buff brick. The house is in good structural condition although some weathering has taken place.

46)  
 LOCATION  
   SW 24-11-17W  
   SE Elton  
 PRESENT USE  
   Occupied  
 PRESENT OWNER  
   G. Edwin &  
   Hazel Farley  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
   J. Cooper  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
   1910



Originally, this house had a verandah which wrapped around two of the sides, and a balcony where the present second storey door is located. A single arched window is located in the fish-scale shingled south gable. The large roof likely included a roof walk at one time.



47)

LOCATION

SW 17-11-19W

SW Elton

PRESENT USE

Occupied

PRESENT OWNER

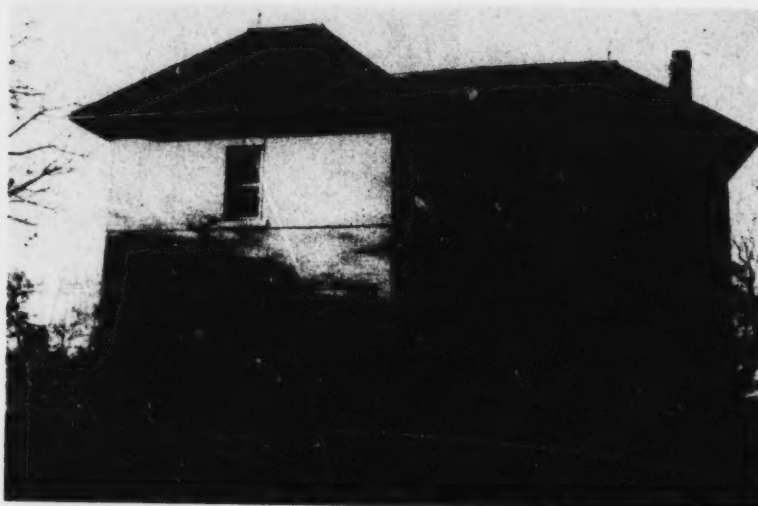
James Hillis

ORIGINAL OWNER

John Coristine

CONSTRUCTION DATE

ca. 1890



While preparation was made to build a large verandah on this house, only a small porch was included. The exclusion of the verandah provides an unobstructed view of the interesting brick detailing. A horizontal string course that runs around the house at the second storey sill level divides the house in two. This feature is contrasted with the string course on the ground floor, which forms surrounds when it rises over the window and door openings. There are some cracks in the foundation and in the brick veneer, but the structure is still fairly sound.

48)

LOCATION

NW 16-9-19W

SW Cornwallis

PRESENT USE

Vacant

PRESENT OWNER

Hugh Ferguson

ORIGINAL OWNER

W.H. Daulnof

CONSTRUCTION DATE

ca. 1905



Probably built around 1905, this large residence boasted, at one time, a verandah with a finished ceiling. The absence of a raised foundation wall may explain why the verandah was removed. The entrances are at ground level and water likely rotted the verandah floor. There may still be a problem with snow accumulation and spring melts at the doorways.

49)

LOCATION

NW 14-12-17W

NE Elton

PRESENT USE

Occupied

PRESENT OWNER

G. Gillespie

ORIGINAL OWNER

R.J. Brandon

CONSTRUCTION DATE

1900



This handsome house with its pillared small verandahs and decorative brickwork produced an elaborate design for the rural context. The gable with its semi-circular window is similar to that found on 33). Small scrolled brackets appear to support the roof overhang. The darker brick lends a three dimensional aspect on the corners and windows.

50)

LOCATION

NE 21-11-18W

S Central Elton

PRESENT USE

Occupied

PRESENT OWNER

James Gilmour

ORIGINAL OWNER

Alex Cole

CONSTRUCTION DATE

1908-1910



This L-shaped house, with palladian gable windows and a wraparound verandah appears to have had ample room for a large family. The large gables are detailed with fish-scale shingling, while an oval window provides light into what is probably a closet.

51)

LOCATION

SE 6-11-19W

SW Elton

PRESENT USE

Occupied

PRESENT OWNER

D. Pottinger

ORIGINAL OWNER

Greenlaw

Brothers

CONSTRUCTION DATE

1905



This large 2½ storey L-shaped residence has a rear wing extension. This structure had a wraparound verandah on the south and east sides. The large matched dormers and the brick and truncated hip roof lend an air of strength and massiveness to the design.

52)

LOCATION

SE 13-11-17W

SE Elton

PRESENT USE

Occupied

PRESENT OWNER

Russell Muirhead

ORIGINAL OWNER

William Muirhead

CONSTRUCTION DATE

1904



This residence is similar to 51). The detailing here, however, is somewhat lighter. A pointed window in the dormer and small brackets relieve the plainness of the roof cornice. The building has been altered considerably, not only outside but inside as well.

53)  
 LOCATION  
   NE 23-11-18W  
   S Central Elton  
 PRESENT USE  
   Occupied  
 PRESENT OWNER  
   L. Birmingham  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
   T. Brinklow  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
   Unknown



This interesting 2½ storey house exhibits neo-Renaissance details in the verandah and palladian windows in the gables. The covered balcony and the gables are also detailed with fish-scale shingling. The hipped roof with its large attic dormers creates an interesting form. The oval window on the ground floor is a feature seen infrequently in the planning district; the only other example is 50).

54)  
 LOCATION  
   NE 9-9-18W  
   S Central  
   Cornwallis  
 PRESENT USE  
   Occupied  
 PRESENT OWNER  
   Murray McPherson  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
   Simon McKay  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
   1882



While the right hand section of this cross-gabled house was constructed in 1882, significant changes were made in 1913. A western section and some detailing were added at that time. The building displays elements of the Gothicism that had characterized residential building a generation earlier. The finial and gingerbread on the front gable are the most visible features.

55)

LOCATION

SE 24-9-19W

SW Cornwallis

PRESENT USE

Abandoned

PRESENT OWNER

Unknown

ORIGINAL OWNER

Hector McLean

CONSTRUCTION DATE

ca. 1900



This large abandoned house features a number of interesting details on the front facade. There are matched bay windows on the ground floor and two small arched windows in the attic storey. Triangular window and door pediments are used for all the openings except the bay windows. The western extension of the building was damaged when the barn roof blew off during a storm and hit the house. That part of the residence was subsequently removed. The house was vacated in 1982.

56)

LOCATION

Douglas

PRESENT USE

Occupied

PRESENT OWNER

P. Chamber

ORIGINAL OWNER

H.E. Willmott

CONSTRUCTION DATE

ca. 1900



The detailing of this village house suggests a construction date prior to 1905. The ornamentation popular during the early and mid-1890s is present here. The triangular pediments and the pointed window in the gable dormer appear as vestiges of the Gothic style details that typically adorned earlier houses. The verandahs feature Victorian style posts and brackets and once incorporated balustrades.

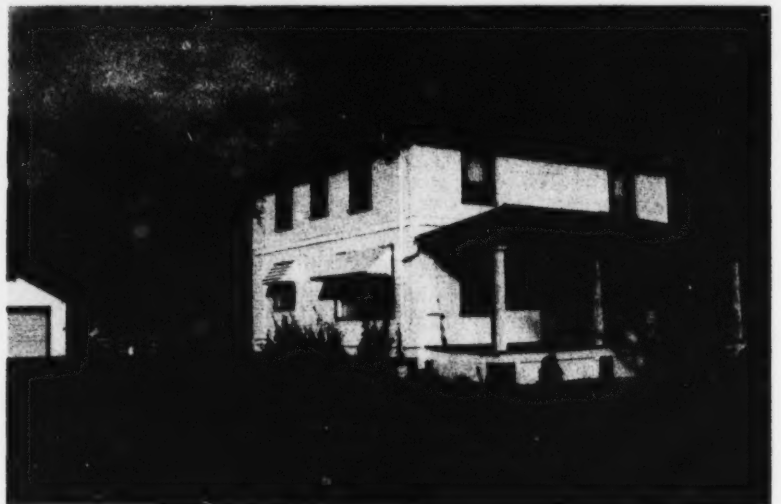


57)  
 LOCATION  
     NE 30-10-19W  
     NW Cornwallis  
 PRESENT USE  
     Occupied  
 PRESENT OWNER  
     D.J. Gray  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
     J.L. Gray  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
     1903



The Gray residence is an adaptation of an elaborate 1860s Italianate style Ontario house. Though missing the bracket-work and carved wood of the earlier structures, it possesses the low pitch roof and low, paired gables on the main facade. The whole design is formally contrived. The front facade has projecting bays that are enhanced with quoins. The fenestration pattern is terminated on these two bays by small round-arched attic windows. The indented entrance bay once had an elaborate verandah and balcony that have since been replaced. A substantial bay window on the east wall is another elegant feature that distinguishes this prominent house in the planning district.

58)  
 LOCATION  
     NE 3-11-19W  
     SW Elton  
 PRESENT USE  
     Occupied  
 PRESENT OWNER  
     Bruce Chambers  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
     Thomas Chambers  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
     1926



This house illustrates how little this type of building changed over the years. The typical two storey square plan was animated with the plainly-detailed verandah and the unobtrusive moulding that separates the two storeys. By the mid-1920s, excess ornamentation was spurned as a decorative feature and buildings like this frequently made a point of their simple elegance.



59)

LOCATION

SW 9-11-19W

SW Elton

PRESENT USE

Occupied

PRESENT OWNER

Earl Bell

ORIGINAL OWNER

J.W. Sandison

CONSTRUCTION DATE

1892



This house is the most noteworthy in the planning district and requires a substantial description. John W. Sandison emigrated to the Carberry Plains area of Manitoba in 1884, and two years later bought land 6.4 kilometres (4 miles) north of Brandon. Once established, he embarked upon a program of rapid land acquisition and cultivation; the 160 hectares (400 acres) he owned in 1886 was increased to 1120 hectares (2800 acres) by late 1890. In 1892, Sandison was in the position of being able to offer a \$100 prize at the Brandon exhibition, and was fondly referred to by a local newspaper as "Our Bonanza Farmer". Nor was this an idle appellation: a large land-holder, he also owned farms near Souris and Kemnay, brought English farmers to the Brandon area, and on one occasion, purchased seventeen Massey-Harris binders and eight new double rigs. An efficient field manager, Sandison and his crews threshed a record 66,000 litres (1800 bushels) of wheat in one day during the late summer of 1892. Unfortunately, local envy of Sandison's success combined with his being heavily in debt to such organizations as the Canada Permanent Loan and Savings Company brought about the downfall of the "Bonanza Farmer". Faced by the sale of his spread and foreclosure by his creditors, Sandison departed the Brandon scene in June 1893 and was never heard of again. Ironically, had the creditors put off their suits, Sandison would have been able to pay them in full with the proceeds of the bumper crop of 1893.

For the first five or six years on his land, Sandison and his wife lived in a tar-paper covered shack, which had been enlarged as need arose. The social and operating requirements of a large farm demanded something better, however, and after having seen to the comforts of his stock, equipment and employees, he



undertook the erection of a house on the property. For an architect, he chose William R. Marshall, who was probably the most important Brandon designer of the time. The building's contractor, William Bell and Sons, who were in the middle of their extensive career as Brandon builders, was the largest firm in the area at the time. Work proceeded through the summer and autumn of 1892 and began again in the spring of 1893. Unfortunately, the Sandison family never dwelt in the large house, for the proceedings of the creditors came prior to its completion. In the ensuing ninety years, the property has had a variety of colourful owners. Coincidentally, the present occupant, Earl Bell, is the grandson of the original contractor.

The Sandison house is built of fieldstone blocks, cut square with rock facing. Evidently, the Bells had built stone houses at their point of origin, Acton, Ontario, for the workmanship on the Sandison house is first-rate. The two-storey walls are crowned by a low-pitch roof that has small but prominent gables at the strategic locations where the three stone chimneys pierce the roof. At the front elevation was a moderate-sized glazed-in wooden tower, with a four-sided roof. In the middle of the flat of the main roof was a glassed-in lookout. Other elements included a three-sided porch with decorated columns and brackets; a bracketed wooden cornice, and an ornamental stone bearing the date and a rampant lion. In style, the Sandison house was that of modified Italianate design, because of its low roof, brackets and verandahs.

60)

LOCATION

NW 1-9-18W

S Central

Cornwallis

PRESENT USE

Abandoned

PRESENT OWNER

Evan Roberts

ORIGINAL OWNER

Woodley Prouce

CONSTRUCTION DATE

ca. 1880



One of the few remaining log structures in the planning district, this early barn features hand hewn logs, dovetail corner notching and log rafters. Rough cut lumber was used in the gables and on the roof, which was covered with wooden shingles. There are two small windows, and only one door which faces west. The size and layout of this building suggests that it was built as a barn, but the interior changes indicate that in later years it was converted for use as a granary.

61)

LOCATION

SW 6-9-18W

S Central

Cornwallis

PRESENT USE

Storage

PRESENT OWNER

Unknown

ORIGINAL OWNER

D.S. Mayler

CONSTRUCTION DATE

ca. 1880



This large log barn is oriented north-south and has a central alleyway with stalls along either side. There are three windows equally spaced, in each of the side walls. The high-walled loft area is of wood frame construction and is likely of more recent construction than the lower level, which was built entirely of unsquared logs. Round nails were used in the loft, and the few nails which were found in the lower level, were of the pre-1900 square variety. This is only one of the four log structures in the area to use corner lap-notch joints.

62)  
 LOCATION  
   NW 3-11-17W  
   SE Elton  
 PRESENT USE  
   Abandoned  
 PRESENT OWNER  
   Unknown  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
   A.B. Wilkes  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
   ca. 1880



Despite being covered with wood siding this log structure is quite similar in size and construction to the Robert's barn (1). The logs are hewn on two sides, and the corner joints are dovetailed. The construction of the loft floor is of some interest. It has thin unpeeled spruce rails, laid side-by-side over log joists which are notched into the side walls. A layer of straw, and then a layer of earth, was spread over this to complete its construction. This type of floor would have insulated the stable area, and yet allowed moisture to pass through. The use of round nails indicates that the wood siding was added after the turn of the century. All remnants of the stalls have been removed, but notching in the joists reveals their former location.

63)  
 LOCATION  
   NE 4-9-17W  
   SE Cornwallis  
 PRESENT USE  
   Abandoned  
 PRESENT OWNER  
   Unknown  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
   Orlando Cullen  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
   ca. 1880



Close inspection of this unusual log structure indicates that it was originally two separate structures, that were joined at a later date. It is likely that the central open area once housed farm implements. The framing of the two large windows on the west structure indicate that they were not original, and were cut when this building was used as a chicken coop.

64)

LOCATION

NE 21-9-18W

S Central

Cornwallis

PRESENT USE

Storage

PRESENT OWNER

Blaine Wakefield

ORIGINAL OWNER

Arthur Gerry

CONSTRUCTION DATE

Unknown



This structure is typical of the earliest type of frame barns constructed in the district and has a number of southern Ontario style barn features. It was built into the side of a small hill for direct access to both the loft and stable levels; it also had fieldstone stable walls and high loft walls with a simple pitch roof. The barn is relatively small, as shelter was required for only a few head of livestock during the early years of settlement, when this barn was built.

65)

LOCATION

SW 13-11-17W

SE Elton

PRESENT USE

Storage

PRESENT OWNER

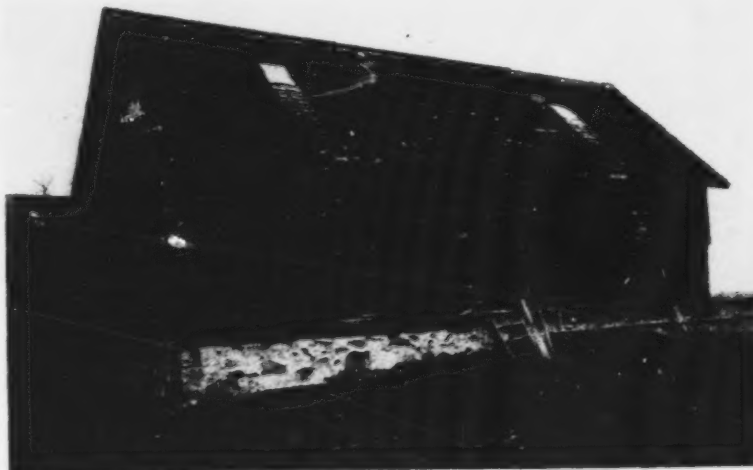
Unknown

ORIGINAL OWNER

James Byers

CONSTRUCTION DATE

Unknown



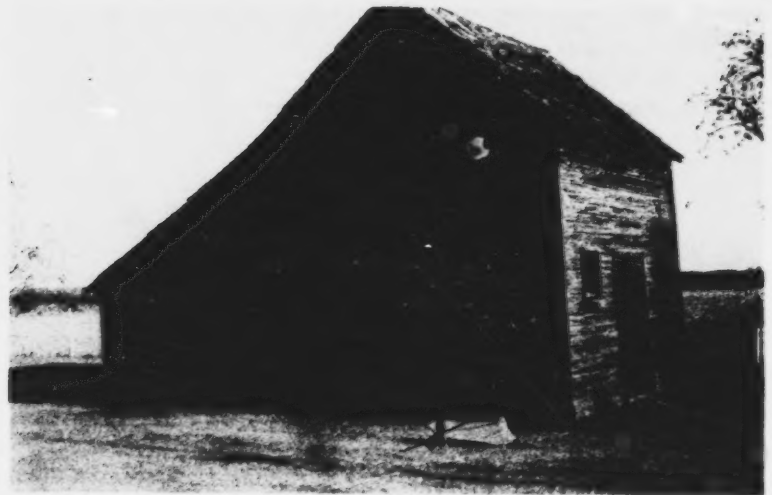
This barn is similar to 64), but it does not have the large, double doors leading into the loft level. Both barns are constructed with studs rather than a heavy timber substructure, over which horizontal drop-siding was nailed. The two hatchways cut into the roof indicate that it was used for grain storage in recent years.



66)  
 LOCATION  
     SW 21-12-18W  
     N Central Elton  
 PRESENT USE  
     Storage  
 PRESENT OWNER  
     Unknown  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
     Andrew Sinton  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
     Unknown



67)  
 LOCATION  
     Douglas  
 PRESENT USE  
     Storage  
 PRESENT OWNER  
     David McKeand  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
     Mr. Moore  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
     Unknown



Both of these structures are smaller variations of the early frame barns found in the planning district. Like the previous two examples (64 and 65) they are small rectangularly planned structures with simple medium-pitch gable roofs and high loft walls. These two buildings, however, were built on level ground and did not require fieldstone stable walls. Lean-to sheds were later additions to both of these buildings, and are common to this type of early barn. The diamond-shaped loft window in 66) was a decorative feature frequently used in barn construction.



68)

LOCATION

SE 4-10-19W  
NW Cornwallis

PRESENT USE

In use, livestock  
and hay storage

PRESENT OWNER

R. Hutton

ORIGINAL OWNER

V. Smith

CONSTRUCTION DATE

ca. 1897



This L-shaped barn is actually two buildings. The smaller, original portion is much like the type of early frame barn (64 and 65) discussed above. It is a small bank barn with fieldstone stable walls, high loft walls of wood framing and horizontal siding. Instead of replacing the structure when larger facilities were required, or constructing a separate structure, a larger, modern addition was made. The main portion, also a bank barn had a central feed alley with horse stalls along one side and cattle along the other. The access alleyways were located along the side walls, and the doors were placed at opposite ends of the south wall. A shed addition has recently been added to the east side of this section and the stable area has been altered.

69)

LOCATION

SE 24-12-17W  
NE Elton

PRESENT USE

Abandoned

PRESENT OWNER

Unknown

ORIGINAL OWNER

G. McLean

CONSTRUCTION DATE

Unknown



This structure, though not a bank barn, is very similar to 68), with a small early barn that has been enlarged with a section of more recent design. The original portion of this barn includes a small shed addition. The interior of the barn has been altered a great deal for use as a granary.

70)  
 LOCATION  
     NE 32-12-17W  
     NW Elton  
 PRESENT USE  
     Storage  
 PRESENT OWNER  
     Unknown  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
     D. Lockridge  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
     ca. 1895



71)  
 LOCATION  
     NW 14-12-17W  
     NW Elton  
 PRESENT USE  
     Storage  
 PRESENT OWNER  
     C. Gillespie  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
     David Geddis  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
     ca. 1895



These two buildings are typical of the larger barns built in the planning district between 1890 and 1900 and closely resemble bank barns commonly found in southern Ontario during the 1870s and 1880s. Both have the Ontario style north ramp into the loft, the medium-pitched gable roof and dual transverse alley planning in the stable. In addition, the stable walls are, like their predecessor's, constructed of fieldstone. However, unlike the typical Ontario style barns, which were sheathed with vertical siding, these two structures are covered with horizontal drop siding. Despite some cracks opening in the stable walls the Gillespie barn, 71), is one of the better examples.

72)

LOCATION

SE 30-11-18W

S Central Elton

PRESENT USE

Abandoned

PRESENT OWNER

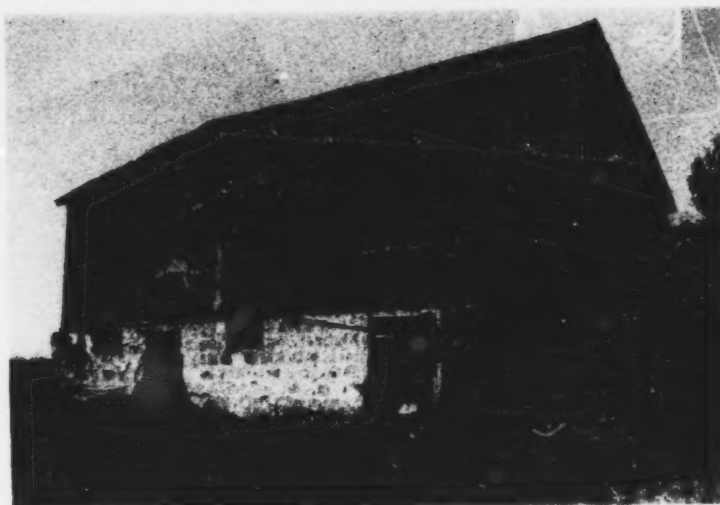
Mr. Oldcorn

ORIGINAL OWNER

D. Ferguson

CONSTRUCTION DATE

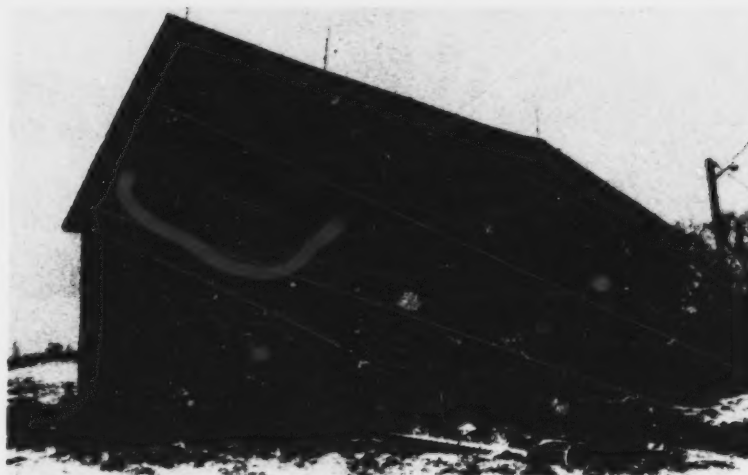
ca 1890



This structure is the only barn in the planning district that closely resembles the type of barn found in southern Ontario during the 1870s and 1880s. It is a bank barn with the stable entrances on the south side and the loft access on the north. It has fieldstone stable walls, heavy timber framework in the loft area, board and batten vertical siding and a simple gable roof. The logs for the structural framework were probably obtained from the forests of the Riding Mountain area. All the timbers used in its construction are hand hewn and the notching in the framework shows a high degree of skill and workmanship.

The fieldstone stable walls show several interesting construction techniques. Large, faced stones were used on either side of the 600 mm (2') thick walls, while the centre section was filled with small uncut stones. The south wall features carefully faced and cut blocks of uniform size and shape on the outside face, and corners braced with very large stones.

73)  
 LOCATION  
   NE 21-9-18W  
   S S Central  
   Cornwallis  
 PRESENT USE  
   Storage  
 PRESENT OWNER  
   Blaine Wakefield  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
   Arthur Gerry  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
   ca. 1895



74)  
 LOCATION  
   SE 31-9-19W  
   SW Cornwallis  
 PRESENT USE  
   Cattle barn  
 PRESENT OWNER  
   Unknown  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
   James Kidd  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
   Unknown



These two structures are similar to 70) and 71) in construction and orientation. Example 74) has an unusual circular window in the gable end, instead of the diamond-shaped ones common in barns of this era. Large carefully-shaped and faced stone blocks were used in the construction of the stable walls of 73) providing a structural strength not found in rubble stone foundations.

75)

LOCATION

SE 18-12-17W

SE Elton

PRESENT USE

Vacant

PRESENT OWNER

M. Outwaite

ORIGINAL OWNER

J.A. Thompson

CONSTRUCTION DATE

1904



76)

LOCATION

SW 24-11-17W

SE Elton

PRESENT USE

Cattle barn

PRESENT OWNER

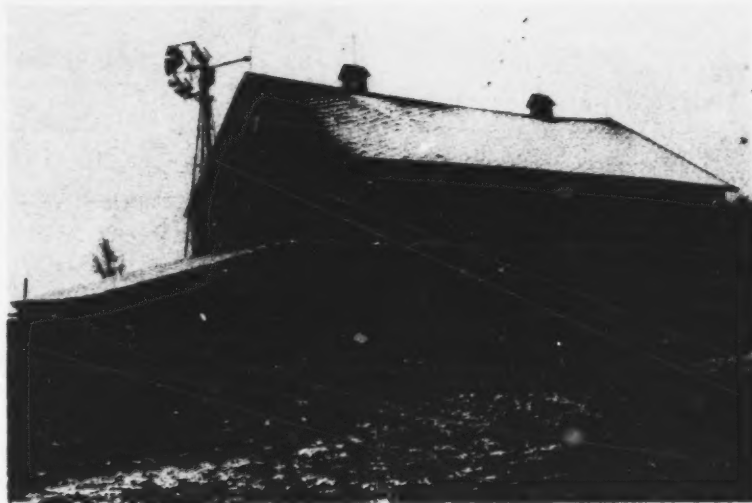
Earl Farley

ORIGINAL OWNER

George Farley

CONSTRUCTION DATE

1897



These structures are both derivatives of the early southern Ontario style barn. The Outwaite barn, 75), is one of the few southern Ontario style barns in the planning district that has a north-south orientation and a central access alleyway with doors at either end. This feature was more common at a later date. Large, faced fieldstones were used for the stable walls which have since been repaired in places with concrete.

The Farley barn, 76), was constructed of lumber and timbers shipped from Rat Portage (now Kenora). It has unusually high fieldstone stable walls and an unusual bent design in the loft.

77)  
 LOCATION  
 NW 3-11-18W  
 S Central Elton  
 PRESENT USE  
 Vacant  
 PRESENT OWNER  
 C.B. Davis  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
 J. McCallum  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
 1901



78)  
 LOCATION  
 SE 13-11-17W  
 SE Elton  
 PRESENT USE  
 Abandoned  
 PRESENT OWNER  
 Russell Muirhead  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
 W. Muirhead  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
 1906



Around the turn of the century barn styles began to change slightly. The barns of this era were generally larger than those built during the 1890s. At the same time, the gambrel roof began to appear replacing the earlier simple gable roof. Fieldstone stable walls were still being constructed during this period, although concrete was increasing in popularity. There are few examples of this larger type of barn remaining. The McCallum barn, 77), is one of the best examples of all the southern Ontario style bank barns in the Brandon area. It has fieldstone stable walls, a large ramp leading up to twin loft doors and a large root cellar built under the ramp. The hipped gable roof is one of the few that still exists in the district. The barn was demolished during the summer of 1982. The Muirhead barn, 78), is one of the few southern Ontario style barns in the district with a north-south orientation and a central alleyway. A room built into the large earth ramp on the west side has been used over the years to house swine, calves and in later years, corn silage. The stable walls required 125 wagon loads of stone that were hauled from northwest of Douglas. The vertical sheathing has been removed and the whole barn is slated for demolition although not in the immediate future.



79)

LOCATION

SE 3-12-19W

NW Elton

PRESENT USE

Storage

PRESENT OWNER

Russell Sparrow

ORIGINAL OWNER

P. Forsyth

CONSTRUCTION DATE

ca. 1920



80)

LOCATION

SW 13-11-18W

S Central Elton

PRESENT USE

Storage

PRESENT OWNER

D. Martin

ORIGINAL OWNER

T. Nevin

CONSTRUCTION DATE

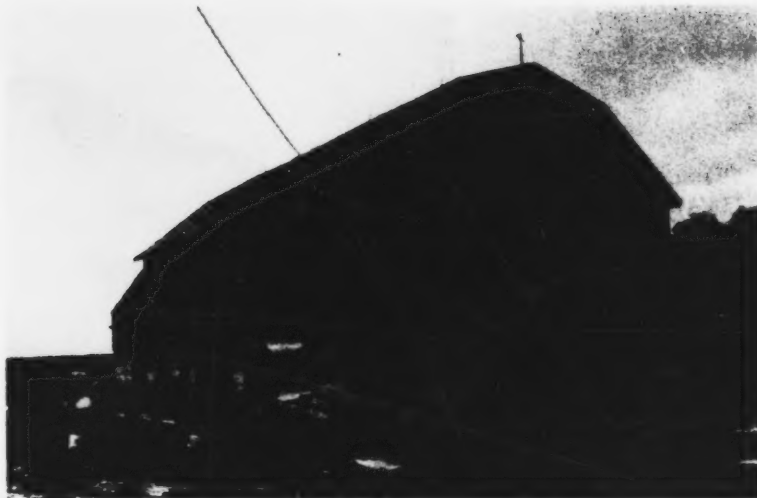
ca. 1905



Six southern Ontario style barns with concrete instead of fieldstone stable walls remain in the planning district. Except for these concrete walls they are the same as the previous two buildings, 77) and 78). Most of these structures are in good condition, except for the stable walls, which in most cases are deteriorating. The poor quality of concrete found in many of the early barns in the area is apparently the result of a high iron content in the local water supply and a high clay content in the local gravel sources.

The structures illustrated above are two of the better examples of this type. The Forsyth barn, 79), although of relatively recent construction, is a good example and has remained unchanged over the years. The Nevin barn 80) stands in a yard which has a number of interesting buildings including the only residence in the district constructed of concrete blocks (34).

81)  
 LOCATION  
     NE 34-11-17W  
     SE Elton  
 PRESENT USE  
     Storage  
 PRESENT OWNER  
     Jim McKeand  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
     R. Douglas  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
     ca. 1905



This barn differs slightly from the previous two examples, 79) and 80), with its wider gambrel roof and shed roof addition.

82)  
 LOCATION  
     NE 23-11-18  
     S Central Elton  
 PRESENT USE  
     Vacant  
 PRESENT OWNER  
     L. Birmingham  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
     T. Brinklow  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
     ca. 1905



The deterioration of the concrete stable walls in this barn has led to obvious structural damage, exemplified by the buckled wall on the north side. In the fall of 1982 preparations were being made for the barn's demolition. Noteworthy features of this structure include the steeply-pitched gambrel roof, and the eave troughs for directing water into a cistern on the loft level. The vertical siding is also unusual, as the spaces were not covered with the usual narrow battens.

83)

LOCATION

SW 19-12-19W

NW Elton

PRESENT USE

Abandoned

PRESENT OWNER

George Krahn

ORIGINAL OWNER

A. Cutting

CONSTRUCTION DATE

ca. 1905



This is a very unusual little barn. It is the only one in the district where brick was used for the construction of the stable walls. It is also the only extant horse barn and is one of only three with sheet galvanized metal covering the loft. It was constructed with buff brick from the brick yard in nearby Rapid City. If the hay sling is an original feature, this barn would be one of the earliest in the district to have had one.

84)

LOCATION

NE 10-9-18W

S Central

Cornwallis

PRESENT USE

Cattle shed

PRESENT OWNER

Ken McPherson

ORIGINAL OWNER

Hugh McPherson

CONSTRUCTION DATE

1902



The McPherson barn is one of the more interesting structures in the district. It is in excellent condition despite its 80 years and has several interesting features. Construction of the stable level was begun with shaped fieldstone blocks but, with one wall built, Mr. McPherson decided to try the relatively new method of poured concrete. The concrete walls still appear new, an unusual situation, given the present condition of most other examples of this type of structure. The McPherson residence 4) was a well-known early stopping house and an addition was made to the barn especially for the stabling of extra teams. At one point in 1914 it held 55 head of cattle and 33 horses. The barn originally had a windmill on the roof to provide power for grain handling and pumping water, but this was destroyed in a wind storm.

85)  
 LOCATION  
     NW 29-10-19W  
     NW Cornwallis  
 PRESENT USE  
     Cattle barn  
 PRESENT OWNER  
     A.T. Durnin  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
     J.D. Durnin  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
     1896



86)  
 LOCATION  
     NW 36-10-18W  
     N N Central  
     Cornwallis  
 PRESENT USE  
     Storage  
 PRESENT OWNER  
     G. Abey  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
     J. Abey  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
     ca. 1910



Both of these L-shaped structures have attached granaries and hipped roofs. The Durnin barn, 85) has a fieldstone stable level and a longitudinal central alleyway common to most pre-1900 barns. The attached granary is an original feature. The arch-shaped window on the gable end is an unusual and distinctive feature. The fieldstone masonry on the barn is in need of repair, but the matched fieldstone residence on the same site is in excellent condition, 36).

The Abey barn 86), was constructed after the turn of the century, and has concrete stable walls. Like the Durnin barn, the granary section was part of the original design. The more traditional diamond-shaped gable end window was used for this barn. The stable walls are deteriorating badly, and the barn is no longer used.

87)

LOCATION

NE 18-11-18W

S Central Elton

PRESENT USE

Storage

PRESENT OWNER

M. Wiebe

ORIGINAL OWNER

R. McKenzie

CONSTRUCTION DATE

ca. 1905



This barn is one of only three in the district which has corrugated, galvanized sheet metal used as a sheathing material. This type of building material first appeared in the district at the turn of the century, but remained popular for only a few years. The stable walls were originally of fieldstone construction, although portions have been repaired with poured concrete and the south wall has been replaced with one of wood frame construction. The barn was originally constructed for Roderick McKenzie, who was one of the founders of the Manitoba Grain Growers Association. He served as the group's Secretary-Treasurer from 1903 to 1921, was editor of the Grain Growers Guide from 1908-1911, and Secretary of the Canadian Council of Agriculture from 1914-1918. This barn may, unfortunately, soon be torn down.

88)

LOCATION

NW 36-12-18W

N Central Elton

PRESENT USE

Storage

PRESENT OWNER

Peter J. Ewert

ORIGINAL OWNER

James Davidson

CONSTRUCTION DATE

1905



This structure is a smaller version of the McKenzie barn, 87). It has a cupola vent on the east side and the little square window under the gable peak. The fieldstone stable walls on this barn are in relatively good condition, though some repairs are being made on the north side. The barn is still being used to house a few head of cattle.



89)

LOCATION

SE 17-9-18W  
S Central  
Cornwallis

PRESENT USE

Storage

PRESENT OWNER

Jack Chapman

ORIGINAL OWNER

Rev. G. Roddick

CONSTRUCTION DATE

1904



This barn was built shortly after the turn of the century by Reverend George Roddick, who was the leader of one of the first groups of settlers to arrive in the district. It is one of the few Nova Scotia style barns that were built in the Brandon Hills area. At one time, the barn had a small north-south addition for grain handling and storage on its west end. Presently the structure is used only for storage purposes.

90)

LOCATION

NW 32-9-18W  
S Central

PRESENT USE

Vacant

PRESENT OWNER

James Albert

ORIGINAL OWNER

John Boles

CONSTRUCTION DATE

ca. 1900



This barn consists of twin horse and cattle sections and several later shed additions. The west portion (on the right) is the original and was probably built prior to the turn of the century. After the adjoining addition was built, the new section was used for cattle while horses were kept in the earlier building. There was a loft door and earth ramp on the north side of the addition. Extensive repairs and alterations have been made to the original stable walls which now consist of a combination of poured concrete, stone, wood frame and concrete block. The small shed additions on either side of this barn were used for hog production. The structure is the only one of its type in the district.



91)

LOCATION

SW 21-9-17W

SE Cornwallis

PRESENT USE

Stable

PRESENT OWNER

Ken Harris

ORIGINAL OWNER

Thomas Kneeshaw

CONSTRUCTION DATE

1905



92)

LOCATION

NW 4-9-17W

SE Cornwallis

PRESENT USE

Abandoned

PRESENT OWNER

Unknown

ORIGINAL OWNER

Orlando Cullen

CONSTRUCTION DATE

ca. 1905



These two nearly identical structures are located only three miles apart and were probably built by the same carpenter within a few years of one another. They are relatively small buildings with central drive-through alleyways in the main section where the horses were kept and a shed-roofed wing for cattle and smaller livestock on the east side. A windmill in the centre of the Kneeshaw barn, 91), provided power for pumping water and handling the feed grain. The hay sling mechanism was a later addition to this barn, but was not installed on the second structure, 92), despite the fact that there exists no other mechanical access to the loft. The Kneeshaw barn is in good condition but it presently houses just one lone riding horse. The other structure has been abandoned for a number of years and is in poor condition.

93)  
 LOCATION  
   NW 16-9-19W  
   SW Cornwallis  
 PRESENT USE  
   Cattle barn  
 PRESENT OWNER  
   Unknown  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
   W.H. Daulnef  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
   Unknown



94)  
 LOCATION  
   NE 18-9-19W  
   SW Cornwallis  
 PRESENT USE  
   Cattle barn and  
   storage  
 PRESENT OWNER  
   Ken Beever  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
   W. Shields  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
   1911



The transition of barn styles in the planning district can be easily seen with these two examples. Barn 93) has some typical southern Ontario features including a post-and-beam internal framework, vertical siding and south-facing transverse alleyways. It also has some later barn characteristics including wood frame stable walls and a hay sling. The Shields barn 94) also has south-facing alleyways, but has concrete stable walls and an open loft space created by the built-up roof truss system. Very innovative in 1911, this barn is one of the largest in the district measuring 1500 (50') by 3300 (110') in plan and rising 1650 mm (55') to the tops of the large vent cupolas. The large loft was used frequently for barn dances and the barn is still being used to house cattle. The stable of the Shields barn is beginning to deteriorate but the rest of the structure is in good, unaltered condition.

95)

LOCATION

NE 9-9-18W  
S Central  
Cornwallis

PRESENT USE

Cattle barn

PRESENT OWNER

Murray McPherson

ORIGINAL OWNER

J. McPherson

CONSTRUCTION DATE

1923



96)

LOCATION

SE 16-11-17W  
SE Elton

PRESENT USE

Storage

PRESENT OWNER

Gordon Black

ORIGINAL OWNER

D.J. Black

CONSTRUCTION DATE

ca. 1940



These two examples show another step in the progression of barn design in the planning district. There is only a single change in design evident. Stable walls of wood frame construction have replaced the concrete walls. This occurred as light plank-framed rafters began to replace the heavy timber loft framework (thick heavy foundations were no longer necessary). The loft access via the earthen ramp, however, is still part of these barn's basic design. Two other changes to the basic southern Ontario style include the raised roof section over the loft doors and the twin square windows in the gable ends. Because of their recent construction, these two structures are in fairly good physical condition.

97)  
 LOCATION  
     NW 29-12-17W  
     NE Elton  
 PRESENT USE  
     Storage  
 PRESENT OWNER  
     J. Harder  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
     G. Gillespie  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
     Unknown



98)  
 LOCATION  
     SW 13-11-17W  
     SE Elton  
 PRESENT USE  
     Storage  
 PRESENT OWNER  
     Ben Harder  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
     J. Muirhead  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
     ca. 1939



Another simple design change is evident in these two structures. The usual south-facing transverse alleyways in the stable have been replaced here with drive through longitudinal alleyways with doors at either end. These barns were basically for dairy cattle and were, therefore, somewhat smaller than the earlier southern Ontario type. Tractors were beginning to replace horses in the early 1920s, and this was reflected by reduced horse space in the barns. Despite these changes the typical built-up ramp to the loft still exists in this design.

99)

LOCATION

SE 17-11-17W

SE Elton

PRESENT USE

Grain Storage

PRESENT OWNER

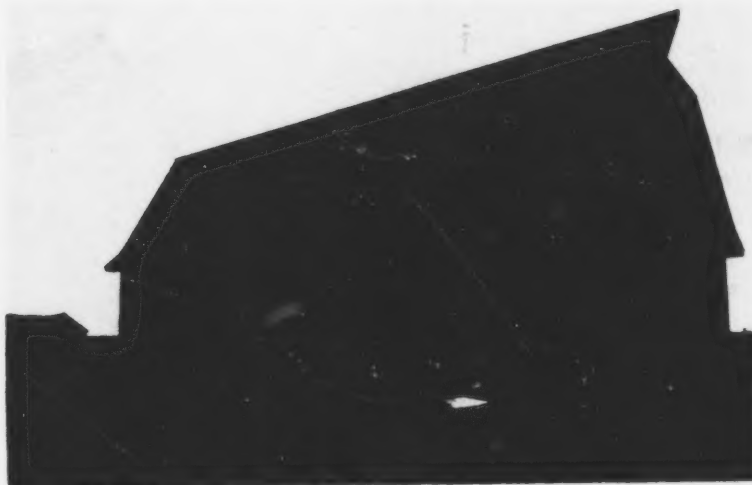
Unknown

ORIGINAL OWNER

A. Nichol

CONSTRUCTION DATE

Unknown



100)

LOCATION

SE 6-12-17W

NE Elton

PRESENT USE

Grain storage

PRESENT OWNER

Unknown

ORIGINAL OWNER

M. McGuire

CONSTRUCTION DATE

Unknown



These two barns have an interesting combination of design features. The hay sling was incorporated directly into the design. The loft doors were positioned under the peak of the gable end and the roof extension protected the hay sling tracking mechanism. With the advent of the hay sling, the need for the earthen ramp disappeared. Yet these barns still have a single vestige of the southern Ontario design; in this case it is the south-facing entrances and transverse alleyways, not present in the previous two barns, 97) and 98).

101)  
 LOCATION  
   NW 13-9-19W  
   S Central  
   Cornwallis  
 PRESENT USE  
   Abandoned  
 PRESENT OWNER  
   Peter Evans  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
   Unknown  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
   Unknown



Constructed with pre-1900 square nails, this structure was likely one of the earliest types of granaries built in the district. The building has one room, 480 x 600 (16' x 20') in plan, with a single full-size door on the north wall and a smaller opening in the west gable end which was used for filling the granary. The horizontal tongue-and-groove siding on the inside of the walls helped prevent leakage and made a smooth interior that was easier to clean.

102)  
 LOCATION  
   SW 27-11-18W  
   S Central Elton  
 PRESENT USE  
   Storage  
 PRESENT OWNER  
   Fred Mansfield  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
   John Mansfield  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
   ca. 1900



A diamond-shaped window, usually found in the gable ends of barns, was located in this long granary. The corners of the building are deteriorating badly, but new asphalt shingles were added to the roof.



103)

LOCATION

SE 19-9-19W

SW Cornwallis

PRESENT USE

Vacant

PRESENT OWNER

Norman Sutherland

ORIGINAL OWNER

Bill McKelvey

CONSTRUCTION DATE

ca. 1897



104)

LOCATION

NE 26-12-18W

N Central Elton

PRESENT USE

Vacant

PRESENT OWNER

Unknown

ORIGINAL OWNER

A. Bailey

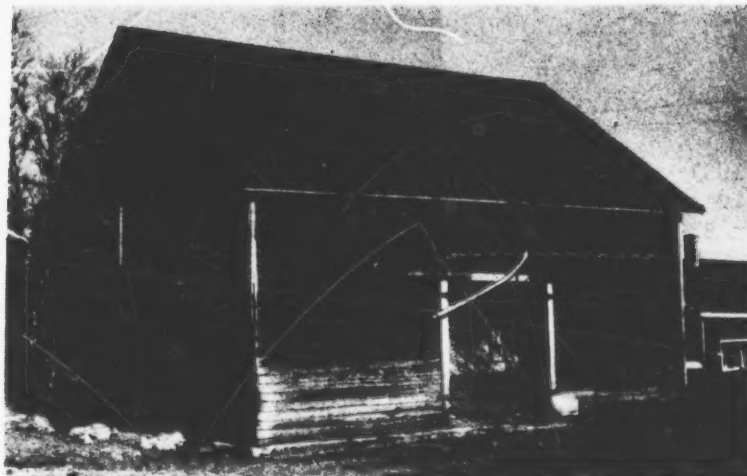
CONSTRUCTION DATE

Unknown



These two structures are typical of early granaries commonly found in the district. They are larger than the preceding examples. A wide central alleyway with doors at either end divides each building in two. The Bailey granary, 104), is unusual. It is the only granary in the area built, like a bank barn, into the side of a small hill. This layout allowed grain to be shovelled into bins from a greater height, and accounts for the high walls and greater capacity of this structure. Both buildings rest on a foundation of loose stones.

105)  
 LOCATION  
 SW 5-19-19W  
 PRESENT USE  
 Granary  
 PRESENT OWNER  
 James Brown  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
 Mr. Lowes  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
 1895



This granary is in relatively good condition, although the wood siding on the lower half is badly worn. The roof has been resingled and the building stands on a low concrete foundation. The small electric grain auger projecting through the front wall is a relatively recent labour-saving device for emptying grain bins.

106)  
 LOCATION  
 NE 30-9-19W  
 SW Cornwallis  
 PRESENT USE  
 Storage  
 PRESENT OWNER  
 H. Lowes  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
 J.W. Lowes  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
 1892



Many additions have been made to this drive-through granary. In 1903 Mr. Lowes designed and constructed a small belt-driven bucket elevator. A small engine room had to be constructed in the southeast corner of the building and a cupola had to be placed on the roof to house the elevator's distribution head. A small feed mill, installed later, was situated above the central alleyway. A section of the roof had to be raised for this alteration. Finally, two shed-roofed wings were added; one was for a new feed mill and storage area while the other was built for machinery storage. The original bucket elevator and pulley system are still intact although the 363,700 litre (10,000 bushel) granary is only occasionally used.

107)

LOCATION

NW 1-11-18W

S Central Elton

PRESENT USE

Abandoned

PRESENT OWNER

Unknown

ORIGINAL OWNER

C. Harrison

CONSTRUCTION DATE

Unknown



This worn-out building is the only granary found in the planning district with an external grain elevator. Constructed of thin metal pipe, the belt and chain driven conveyor could fill the bins on one side of the building from the outside. It was likely a portable unit and was possibly home-made. The granary had a wide central alleyway, and the remains of a shed-roofed addition on the south side. The walls were constructed with round poles and unplanned lumber studding.

108)

LOCATION

NE 10-9-18W

S Central

Cornwallis

PRESENT USE

Granary

PRESENT OWNER

K. McPherson

ORIGINAL OWNER

Hugh McPherson

CONSTRUCTION DATE

1912



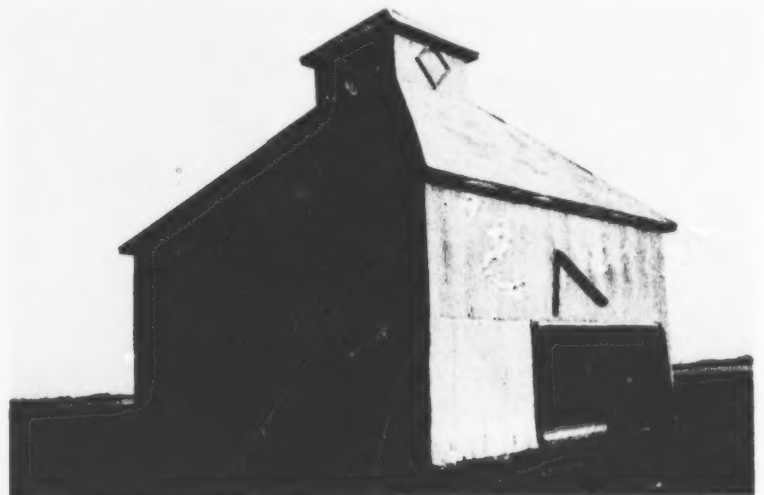
The large alley doors on this well-maintained granary have been replaced by smaller ones. A bucket-elevator was installed during construction of the granary; the cupola extension on the roof covers the elevator's distribution-head. The building is still in use, although the original elevator is no longer operational.

109)  
 LOCATION  
     SE 15-9-19W  
     SW Cornwallis  
 PRESENT USE  
     Granary  
 PRESENT OWNER  
     Unknown  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
     Unknown  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
     ca. 1905



This structure has a central drive-through alley, a rectangular plan and a gable roof. The cupola on the roof is likely an original feature. A wing on the east side of the building is also original. The entire structure is sheathed in corrugated sheet metal and is apparently still in use.

110)  
 LOCATION  
     NW 3-11-18W  
     S Central Elton  
 PRESENT USE  
     Vacant  
 PRESENT OWNER  
     C. Davis  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
     John McCallum  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
     1904



This large, carefully-designed elevator, was constructed of cribbed 40 x 80 (2" x 4") walls for greater strength and was sheathed with corrugated sheet metal. An elevator in the central alley lifted grain from a grain pit under the alley floor to distribute it to the six high-walled bins flanking the aisle or to the two slant-floored bins above the alley. Unfortunately, this elevator was dismantled before publication of this report.

111)  
 LOCATION  
 SE 23-11-18W  
 S Central Elton  
 PRESENT USE  
 Granary  
 PRESENT OWNER  
 R. Green  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
 W.J. Nelson  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
 Unknown



The Nelson elevator is still in use, although the original stationary engine has been replaced by an electric motor. It is the largest and best maintained elevator in the district. Pressed tin now covers the original wood siding on the main structure. This was not applied to the large shed addition on the east side.

112)  
 LOCATION  
 NE 23-11-18W  
 S Central Elton  
 PRESENT USE  
 Granary  
 PRESENT OWNER  
 L. Birmingham  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
 T. Brinklow  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
 Unknown



This elevator is similar to 111), although it has a smaller capacity. The exterior walls, once covered with wood siding, are now covered with pressed tin. The small shed addition on the left was originally used for feed mill but is presently used for storage. Holes have been cut into the concrete footings of the whole structure to facilitate the use of modern grain augers for emptying of the bins. The building is in fairly good condition, although it is only occasionally used.

113)  
 LOCATION  
   NE 17-12-18W  
   N Central Elton  
 PRESENT USE  
   Miscellaneous  
   storage  
 PRESENT OWNER  
   Alex Boyd  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
   C.E. McDougall  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
   Unknown



114)  
 LOCATION  
   NE 34-11-19W  
   SW Elton  
 PRESENT USE  
   Granary  
 PRESENT OWNER  
   S. Murray  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
   J.D. McGregor  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
   Unknown



These two structures, typical of wood frame granaries built in the planning district after 1930, differ considerably from earlier types. The more recent buildings are long and low with simple gable roofs and they have no central alleyway or bucket elevator. They are divided into a number of bins that are filled and emptied with the use of modern portable augers. The hinged roof extensions over each of the bins in 113) are somewhat unusual. Large openings were not usually needed with augers and the small circular holes in the roof of 114) are more typical. The two south bins in 113) have been converted for machinery storage and the building is no longer used as a granary.



115)

LOCATION

NW 13-9-19W

SW Cornwallis

PRESENT USE

Abandoned

PRESENT OWNER

Peter Evans

ORIGINAL OWNER

Unknown

CONSTRUCTION DATE

ca. 1905



This machinery storage building was likely used at various times to house binders, mowers, tractors, sleds and buggies. The shed was roughly constructed using posts driven into the ground and horizontal nailing boards that were sheathed with vertical planking. The roof reveals its original plank and wood shingle construction. Large doors once slid along the metal track that extended along the building under the eave.

116)

LOCATION

SE 24-9-19W

SW Cornwallis

PRESENT USE

Machine shed

PRESENT OWNER

D. Ardiel

ORIGINAL OWNER

Dr. Dorne

CONSTRUCTION DATE

ca. 1905



This storage shed, also built about 1905, is a more carefully constructed building. Wood framing, covered with horizontal siding, was secured to a concrete foundation that has ensured the stability of this large shed. The typical rectangular door opening is altered with a diagonal inset, producing a simple motif that relieves the plainness of the building.

117)  
 LOCATION  
     SW 9-11-19W  
     SW Elton  
 PRESENT USE  
     Machinery stores  
 PRESENT OWNER  
     Earl Bell  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
     Lonsdale Nelles  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
     ca. 1900



This long shed-roofed building was built by a later owner of the Sandison property. The shed was constructed to replace another that was blown down. The large number of doors indicate the diversity of storage needs the building fulfilled.

118)  
 LOCATION  
     SE 3-12-19W  
     NW Elton  
 PRESENT USE  
     Miscellaneous  
     storage  
 PRESENT OWNER  
     Russ Sparrow  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
     Peter Forsyth  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
     1928



The high roof and wide doors on this shed indicate that it was used to store a threshing machine. Its simple, straightforward construction is typical of the utilitarian approach that characterized shed construction.

119)  
 LOCATION  
 SW 9-11-19W  
 SW Elton  
 PRESENT USE  
 Vacant  
 PRESENT OWNER  
 Earl Bell  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
 T. Devine  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
 ca. 1890



This elaborate building once housed buggies and teams of horses. The twin dormers and the louvred cupola provide architectural distinction to this utilitarian structure. They also provided abundant light and ventilation to the interior. The coupled small windows on the front and back indicate the stall layout. The eave across the front of the building is not only decorative but also supports the track for the sliding door. The building was clearly meant to impress visitors to the estate.

120)  
 LOCATION  
 SW 9-11-19W  
 SW Elton  
 PRESENT USE  
 Vacant  
 PRESENT OWNER  
 Earl Bell  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
 Lonsdale Nelles  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
 1912



This is another of the interesting structures on the former Sandison yard. Well-constructed and in good condition, the building originally served as a pig barn. Stairs inside provided access for the pigs from the first to the second floor. Refuse from the second floor was thrown out a hatch on the south side. A chop bin was located on the west end of the first floor. In later years the east end of the piggery was used as a chicken coop. A stove in the east end was used to provide heat for the chicken brooding. The double-framed wall with horizontal siding inside and out ensured that the livestock was kept warm in the winter.

121)  
 LOCATION  
   NW 26-12-19W  
   NW Elton  
 PRESENT USE  
   Abandoned  
 PRESENT OWNER  
   Eileen Naisbitt  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
   W.H. Dillman  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
   ca. 1920



Chicken coops were a typical feature on the farms of Elton-Cornwallis, but most are now gone. The few found are small, simple structures. The central doorway is flanked by large windows which provided light and ventilation, essential for housing chickens and good egg production.

122)  
 LOCATION  
   SE 13-12-19W  
   NW Elton  
 PRESENT USE  
   Abandoned  
 PRESENT OWNER  
   Michael Kowbel  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
   Unknown  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
   ca. 1920



This chicken coop, although small and simply constructed, has an interesting variety of windows. Three long and narrow windows have been placed above the five main windows. On the west gable is a diamond-shaped window which is more typically found in barn lofts.

123)

LOCATION

SE 30-12-19W

NW Elton

PRESENT USE

Storage

PRESENT OWNER

Arnold Cundy

ORIGINAL OWNER

W.J. Cundy

CONSTRUCTION DATE

Unknown



This well-built structure with a concrete footing was originally used as a bunk house. As occasionally found in farm buildings, the roof of this building mimics that of the main house, 41).

124)

LOCATION

SE 3-12-19W

NW Elton

PRESENT USE

Miscellaneous  
storage

PRESENT OWNER

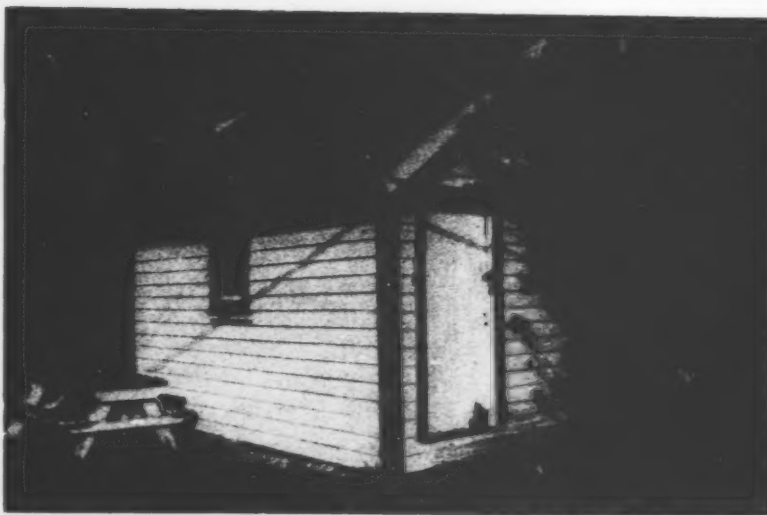
R. Sparrow

ORIGINAL OWNER

Peter Forsyth

CONSTRUCTION DATE

ca. 1920



This shack was also once used as a bunk house. One room with a stove provided the basic amenities for the hired man. Plainly constructed, with a door and small window, the structure has been well-preserved. A concrete foundation and attentive repairs have maintained this building throughout the years.

125)  
 LOCATION  
   NE 29-10-19W  
   NW Cornwallis  
 PRESENT USE  
   Vacant  
 PRESENT OWNER  
   Glen Hunter  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
   Unknown  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
   ca. 1900



Few root cellars were located in the survey. This one cellar is a particularly good and interesting example. In order to ensure a cool interior it was built of fieldstone blocks into the side of a small hillock. The gable window and pyramidal roof add distinction to this small structure.

126)  
 LOCATION  
   NE 34-11-19W  
   SW Elton  
 PRESENT USE  
   Outhouse  
 PRESENT OWNER  
   S. Murray  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
   G.D. MacGregor  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
   ca. 1920



Outhouses, privies, or necessities, as they were called, were a required building on all farm yards in the west before the advent of indoor plumbing. These utilitarian structures were occasionally enhanced with decorative vents and trim. This simply-constructed example is provided with some decoration by a circular mirror with artificial roses that hangs on the door.



127)

LOCATION

NE 17-9-18W  
S Central  
Cornwallis

PRESENT USE

Brandon Hills  
United Church

PRESENT OWNER

United  
congregation

ORIGINAL OWNER

Presbyterian  
congregation

CONSTRUCTION DATE

1896



This church structure was designed by noted Brandon architect, W.H. Shillinglaw and was patterned after a similar building in Durham, Nova Scotia, where many of the early settlers of the district originated. The bell from that church was purchased by the Brandon Hills Parish in 1901 and is still being used today. The building itself is 840 x 1200 (28' x 40') with a 240 x 240 (8' x 8') tower. The pointed doorway and windows, and modified rose-window and crenelated mouldings on the tower suggest a strong Gothic influence. The church was originally Presbyterian, but became a United Church with church union in 1925.

128)

LOCATION

Douglas

PRESENT USE

Douglas United  
Church

PRESENT OWNER

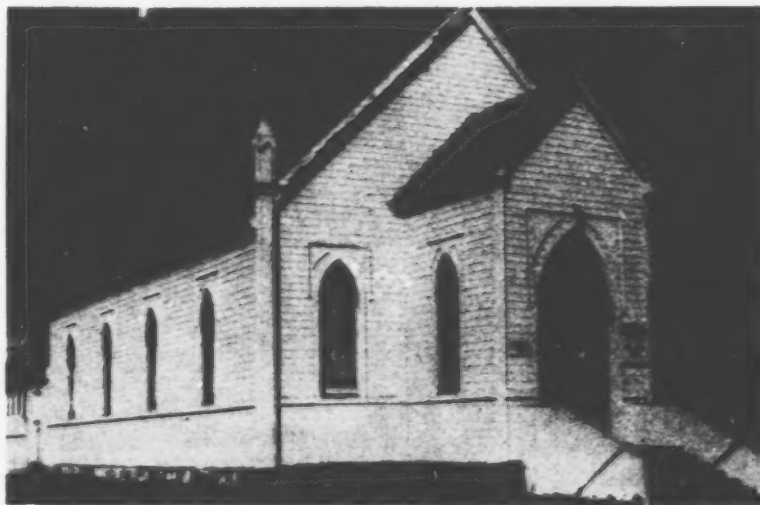
United  
congregation

ORIGINAL OWNER

Methodist  
congregation

CONSTRUCTION DATE

1893



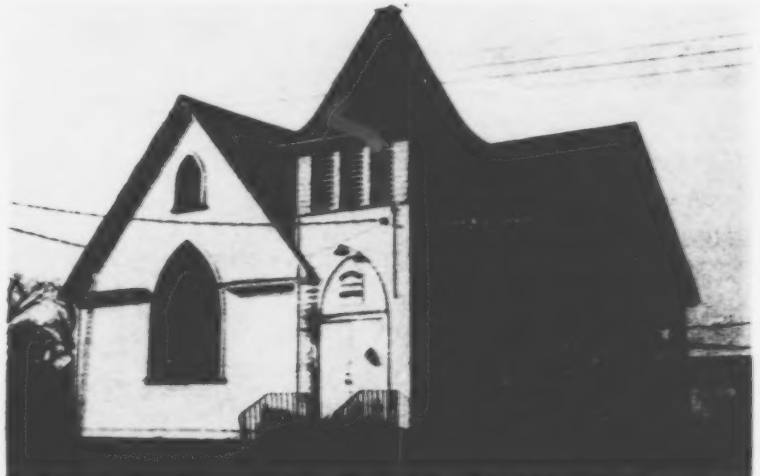
The oldest of all the surviving churches in the study area, this structure originally featured a tall belfry and steeple, but it was removed when it became unsafe. Originally, it also featured decorative cresting along the ridge of the roof, and corner pinnacles like those on the front, on all four corners. The rear annex was added in 1957.

129)  
 LOCATION  
     Justice  
 PRESENT USE  
     Justice United  
     Church  
 PRESENT OWNER  
     United  
     congregation  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
     Methodist  
     congregation  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
     1910



Originally built at the Forrest Methodist Church, this structure became the district's United Church in 1925. It is very similar in design to several other Methodist Churches built in the study area, including the one in the Village of Chater, and another, Sparling, which once stood several miles northwest of Douglas. These common features include a south by east L-shaped plan with the bell tower built in the crook of the L, common placement of the pointed window and main entranceway, a simple pitch roof over the main structure and a pyramid shaped roof over the bell tower. The Justice United Church is presently still in use by the local congregation.

130)  
 LOCATION  
     Chater  
 PRESENT USE  
     Chater Commu-  
     nity Centre  
 PRESENT OWNER  
     R.M. of  
     Cornwallis  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
     Methodist  
     congregation  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
     1900



This structure, completed in December, 1899, was originally the Chater Methodist Church. It is very similar in design to the one built in Forrest ten years later and was probably used as a pattern for that church. The Chater church features a large beautiful stained glass window, dedicated to the memory of a Mrs. J. Brooks, a church leader who died of typhoid fever during the construction of the church. In 1922, three years before the Canada-wide union, Chater Methodist and Presbyterian Churches united, and the Methodist Church, being the newer and better of the two, was selected as the new United Church. It was eventually closed in 1971, and has been used ever since as a local community centre.

131)

LOCATION

NW 21-12-19W

NW Elton

PRESENT USE

Vacant

PRESENT OWNER

R.M. of Elton

ORIGINAL OWNER

Anglican Parish

of St. George

CONSTRUCTION DATE

1901



This neat little structure appears to have been the only Anglican, as well as the only brick, church constructed in the planning district. It was the product of a small group of pioneers who settled in the surrounding area during the late 1880s, having arrived directly from England. The buff coloured brick was purchased from the brickyard in nearby Rapid City. The church is of simple design, but has several interesting features, such as the stained glass windows with brickwork surrounds and gable dormers. The belltower includes a concrete date-stone, and a broach spire. It is no longer in use.

132)

LOCATION

Forrest

PRESENT USE

Forrest United  
Church

PRESENT OWNER

Forrest United  
congregation

ORIGINAL OWNER

Forrest United  
congregation

CONSTRUCTION DATE

1929



Forrest United Church was constructed in 1929 using materials salvaged from two former rural churches, Wesley Methodist and Humesville Presbyterian. Church union had occurred in 1925, and the parish decided to construct a new structure in the village of Forrest, a more central location, rather than to use either of these two rural buildings. With its massing and low profile, it is an informal-looking church, and if not for the pointed windows, it could easily pass for a large half-timbered residence.

133)  
 LOCATION  
     Douglas  
 PRESENT USE  
     Community hall  
 PRESENT OWNER  
     Douglas Commu-  
     nity Centre  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
     Douglas Commu-  
     nity Centre  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
     1920



The Douglas Community Hall was originally known as the Memorial Hall. The building exhibits the boom town front that creates a more imposing facade. A gabled hall was covered with a simple five bay facade. The extended central bay is flanked by two equally wide indented bays. The whole composition is terminated by two thin extended end bays. The original frame construction was recovered with insulbrick during the 1940s, and the windows have also been boarded-up.

134)  
 LOCATION  
     SE 10-12-18W  
     N Central Elton  
 PRESENT USE  
     Cattle shelter  
 PRESENT OWNER  
     W. Miller  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
     Moore Park  
     Orange Lodge  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
     Unknown



The Orange Hall, formerly at Moore Park, was moved to Justice in 1954. The facade of this hall offers an interesting variation on the simple boom town front used on the Douglas Community Hall. The facade is extended laterally at the roof eaves to cover their appearance. This wider section is topped by a pedimented section that disguises the roof peak. The front third of this hall was a later extension. The seam is clearly visible behind the first window. The outline of a gabled porch is still present. The building is currently used as a cattle shelter.

135)

LOCATION

SE 15-9-19W  
SW Cornwallis

PRESENT USE

Vacant

PRESENT OWNER

R.M. of  
Cornwallis

ORIGINAL OWNER

Little Souris  
S.D. #227

CONSTRUCTION DATE

1884



Built in 1884, this building is probably the oldest remaining schoolhouse in the planning district. Over the years, however, a number of changes have been made, including the removal of the bell tower, the addition of a front porch and rear storage shed, and the stuccoing of the walls. The school was closed with regional consolidation in 1966 and was then used as a rural community centre until 1980. It is now vacant.

136)

LOCATION

NW 22-12-18W  
N Central Elton

PRESENT USE

Abandoned

PRESENT OWNER

R.M. of Elton

ORIGINAL OWNER

Gourlay S.D.  
#695

CONSTRUCTION DATE

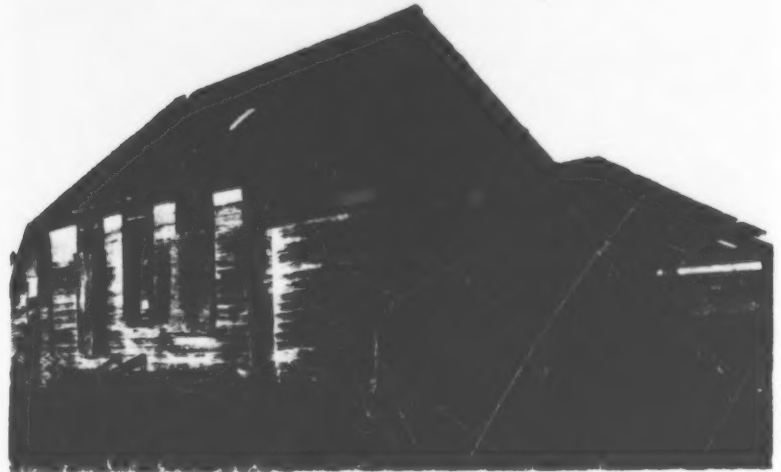
1892



Although simple in design and construction, this structure has several interesting architectural features. The high pitched roofs and slightly arched window heads relieve the severity of the design. A fine touch is the gable constructed above the door.



137)  
 LOCATION  
   NW 20-10-18W  
   N Central  
   Cornwallis  
 PRESENT USE  
   Miscellaneous  
   storage  
 PRESENT OWNER  
   Unknown  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
   Unknown  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
   ca. 1900



This school house has probably been moved, although its original location is unknown. Likely constructed before the turn of the century, it now serves as a storage building on a farm near the old Grand Valley townsite. With its low pitched roof and hipped roof porch, it closely resembles a number of other schoolhouses in the planning district.

138)  
 LOCATION  
   SE 13-11-17W  
   SE Elton  
 PRESENT USE  
   Miscellaneous  
   storage  
 PRESENT OWNER  
   Russel Muirhead  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
   Derry S.D. #1052  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
   1900



The Derry schoolhouse, constructed in 1900 for \$537.00, is representative of many of the early schools built in the planning district near the turn of the century. Common characteristics are: a single classroom; wood frame construction; a medium gabled roof; a north-south orientation with three or four equally spaced windows on either side; and a south porch with hipped roof. The yard once contained a large horse-stable and hedges of caragana and lilac. The school closed in 1966 and was used for a time as a summer residence.



139)

LOCATION

SE 27-11-17W

SE Elton

PRESENT USE

Granary

PRESENT OWNER

Unknown

ORIGINAL OWNER

Elton S.D. #131

CONSTRUCTION DATE

1900



The former Elton schoolhouse is very similar to the two previous examples with its north-south orientation, hipped porch roof and three windows on both the east and west walls. The hipped roof on the main structure, however, is not common and illustrates the ambitious attempt of the local school board to erect a more stylish building than was typical. This is the only schoolyard in the planning district on which the once standard horse-stable still exists. Despite being used as granaries since 1944 when the school was closed, the buildings are still in good condition.

140)

LOCATION

NE 35-11-17W

SE Elton

PRESENT USE

Abandoned

PRESENT OWNER

Unknown

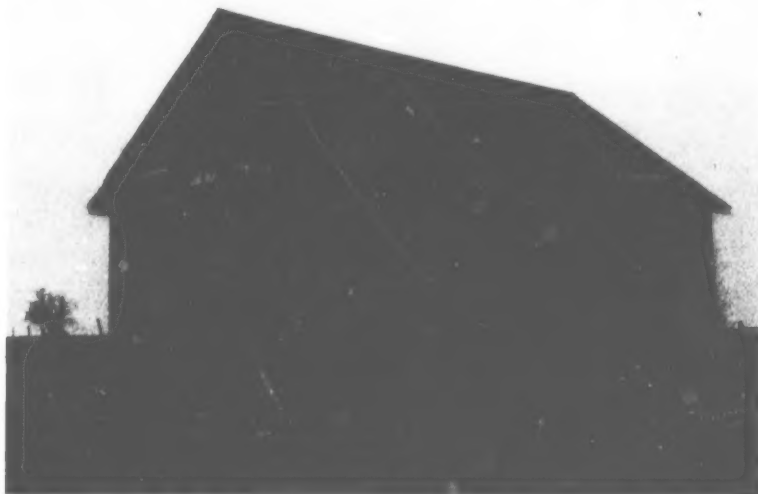
ORIGINAL OWNER

Matheson

S.D. #1062

CONSTRUCTION DATE

1905



Matheson School was constructed in 1905 on a one-acre parcel of land donated by a local farmer. It was built to the new 1903 Standard Plan for a Frame School No. 1, designed for the Government of Manitoba by noted Winnipeg architect Samuel Hooper. A small horse stable and a double outdoor toilet completed the little schoolyard complex, which was enclosed with a page-wire fence. Due to declining enrollment, the school was closed in 1920 and stood vacant until it was renovated and reopened in 1938. In 1945 it was once again closed, and has been used as a granary ever since.

141)  
 LOCATION  
 Justice  
 PRESENT USE  
 Vacant  
 PRESENT OWNER  
 R.M. of Elton  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
 Justice S.D.  
 #696  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
 1912



The former Justice schoolhouse is the only two-roomed school remaining in the district. Covered with brick veneer, it features a full basement, separate entrances with brick pillars supporting the porch roof, a low hipped roof on the main part and a large front extension with a medium pitch gable roof. Like many other small schools, it was closed during regional consolidation in 1967, and was used as a local community centre for a number of years. It is used infrequently at present.

142)  
 LOCATION  
 NW 16-9-18W  
 S Central  
 Cornwallis  
 PRESENT USE  
 Community  
 centre  
 PRESENT OWNER  
 R.M. of  
 Cornwallis  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
 Brandon Hills  
 S.D. #138  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
 1915



This neat little schoolhouse was built in 1915 for \$2,375.00, replacing the original wood frame structure that burned earlier that year. When constructed, it had a full basement with a wood-burning furnace which was replaced, subsequently, by coal and then a coal-oil furnace. The low hipped roof, and a row of windows on one side only, are characteristics of many rural schools built in Manitoba after 1910. A porch and dormer enhance the simple design of the structure. The school district was dissolved in 1968 and the structure converted into a local community centre. It is still used for this purpose.

143)  
 LOCATION  
   SE 27-12-17W  
   NE Elton  
 PRESENT USE  
   Vacant  
 PRESENT OWNER  
   W. Lowen  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
   Norman S.D. #484  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
   1926



This picturesque little structure was constructed in 1926 for \$4,500 and replaced an earlier 1887 school. The hipped roof and row of large windows on the west side were standard design features for the time, but the central heating and indoor plumbing were considered very modern features for a rural school. The school was closed in 1962 and used for a time as a community centre for the surrounding district. It is now vacant.

144)  
 LOCATION  
   Justice  
 PRESENT USE  
   General store  
 PRESENT OWNER  
   W. Bieganski  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
   Ed & Ike  
   Mitchell  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
   1890



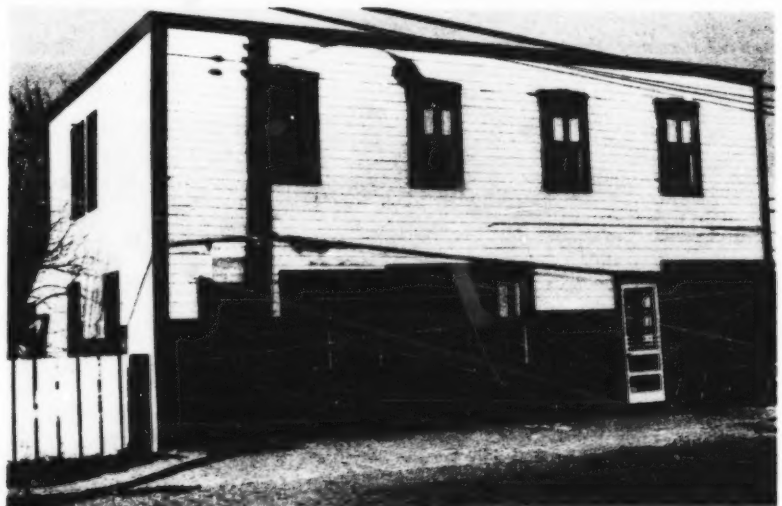
This store with post office was assembled from at least two other old buildings. The stores that once served the defunct villages of Aikenside and Elton were moved to Justice in 1907 where they were joined to form the present store. The pressed tin siding was used to imitate concrete blocks on the exterior of the building. Inside, pressed tin panels were used on the low ceiling.

145)  
 LOCATION  
     Douglas  
 PRESENT USE  
     Miscellaneous  
     storage  
 PRESENT OWNER  
     G. Hooke  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
     M. Sinclair  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
     ca. 1889



This small meat market exhibits the boom town fronts popular at the turn of the century. The wide front also provided more space for the merchant's name: Sinclair Meat Market. This structure is now used as a storage shed.

146)  
 LOCATION  
     Douglas  
 PRESENT USE  
     Post office and  
     residence  
 PRESENT OWNER  
     R. Copley  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
     N. Evoy  
 CONSTRUCTION DATE  
     ca. 1900



This two storey building originally served as a stopping house. A livery stable was once present to provide accommodation for travellers' horses. The building was taken over by H.I. Hooke and was named the New Douglas Hotel. The hotel operated until the 1930s when Hooke and C. Maclean divided the building in two. The left half was used by Hooke as a residence and post office-grocery store. Maclean used the right half as a garage and residence. The fenestration pattern is original, although the second storey window frames have been altered. The pedimented framing details popular around 1890, have been replaced by rectangular frames.

147)

LOCATION

Forrest

PRESENT USE

Vacant

PRESENT OWNER

C.P.R.

ORIGINAL OWNER

F.C. Hockley

CONSTRUCTION DATE

ca. 1910



148)

LOCATION

Chater

PRESENT USE

Vacant

PRESENT OWNER

C.P.R.

ORIGINAL OWNER

Unknown

CONSTRUCTION DATE

ca. 1920



Railway section houses were built to provide accommodation for repair crews. The left side of the structure was generally used for eating while the right side was used for sleeping. The regularity of their designs reflects the general nature of railroad architecture. Prescribed plans and specifications were used in the construction of all such buildings by both major railroad companies. The C.P.R., which is responsible for these two structures, built identical sheds throughout western Canada. This kind of building had a specifically-detailed door capped with a small gable on the left side of the main facade. The drop siding indicates that 146) was probably built around 1900. The second example, 147), exhibits clapboard siding, a construction material that was popular at a later date.



149)  
LOCATION  
NE 7-12-18W  
N Central Elton  
PRESENT USE  
Vacant  
PRESENT OWNER  
C.N.R.  
ORIGINAL OWNER  
C.N.R.  
CONSTRUCTION DATE  
ca. 1930



The Brandon North railway station served as the C.N.R. depot from the early 1930s until it was recently closed. A station at Knox had originally served as the C.N.R. station for Brandon. This was abandoned when Highway #10 was completed. A typical C.N.R. plan was not used here. An old building was simply relocated on the present site to serve as the new waiting room. An attendant's quarters and two baggage rooms were added later. The small central section of the structure was used as bachelor quarters by the station attendant. The dominant waiting room has a decorative central gable dormer that enhances the entrance both inside and out. The gable roof of the waiting room is repeated, in smaller form, by the attendant's quarters and again by the wide longitudinal gable roofs of the twin baggage sheds. The same inverted picket motif is used on the gables. The large double doors are provided with some detailing by diagonal patterning on the panel insets.



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